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PENNSYLVANIA
BISON HUNT

PENNA. DEER AND
THEIR HORNS

SHOEMAKER





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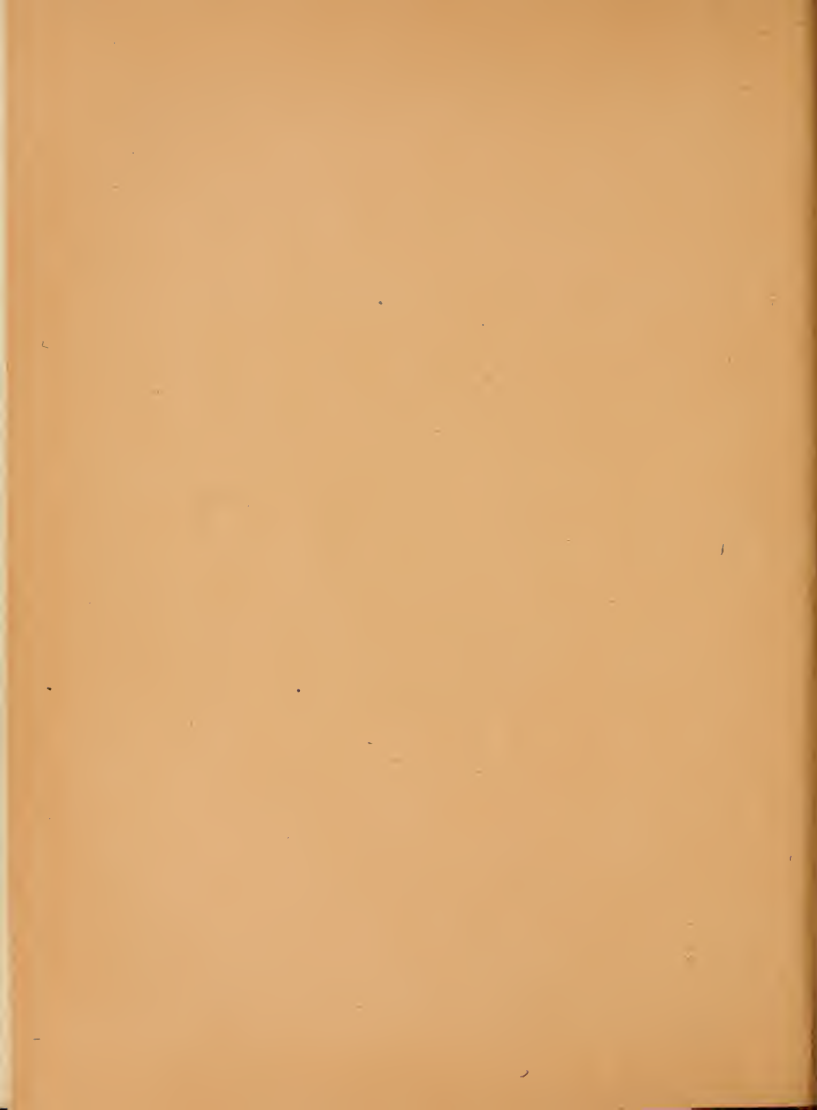
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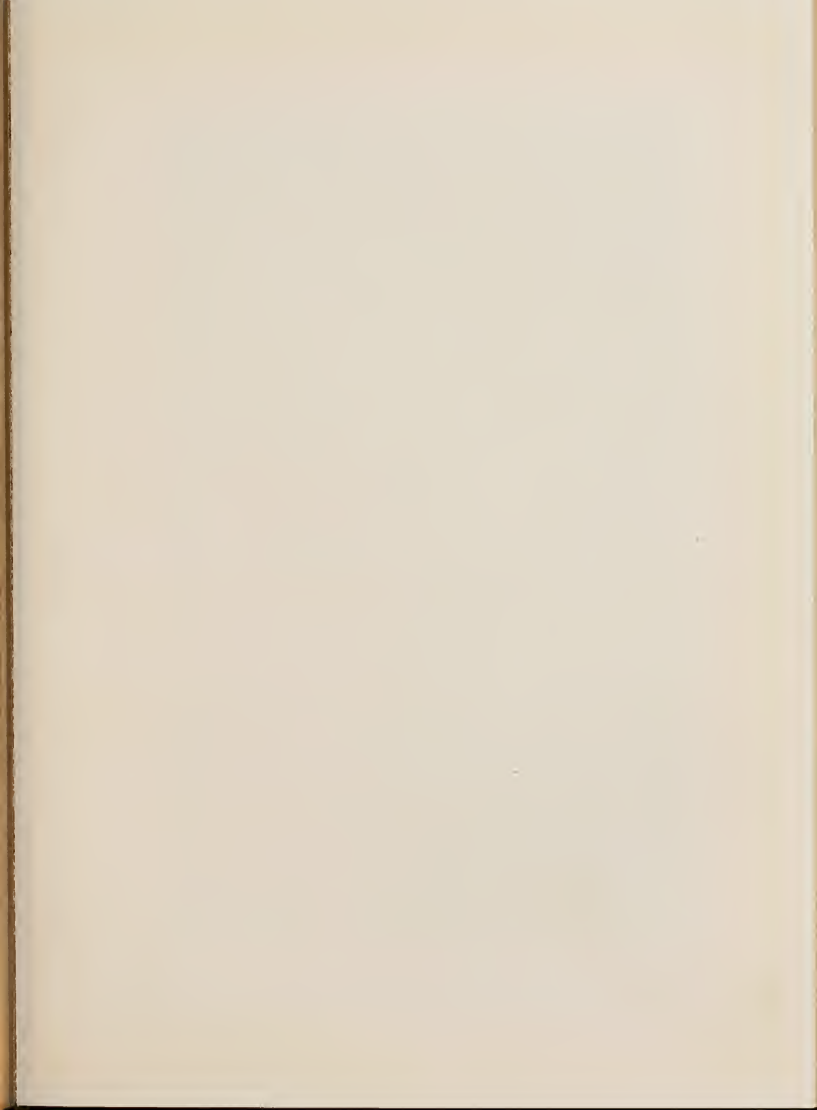
Pennsylvania Deer and Their Horns

BY
HENRY W. SHOEMAKER



AUTHOR OF
WOLF DAYS
IN PENNSYLVANIA







Charles H. Eldon, Famous Naturalist of Williamsport, Pa., with the fine
head killed by Samuel Strohecker in High Valley, Centre County, 1893
(Frontispiece)

Pennsylvania Deer and Their Horns

By

HENRY W. SHOEMAKER

(Author of "Wolf Days in Pennsylvania," etc.)

"A Park Without Deer is Like a
Wall Without Pictures."

Richard Jefferies.

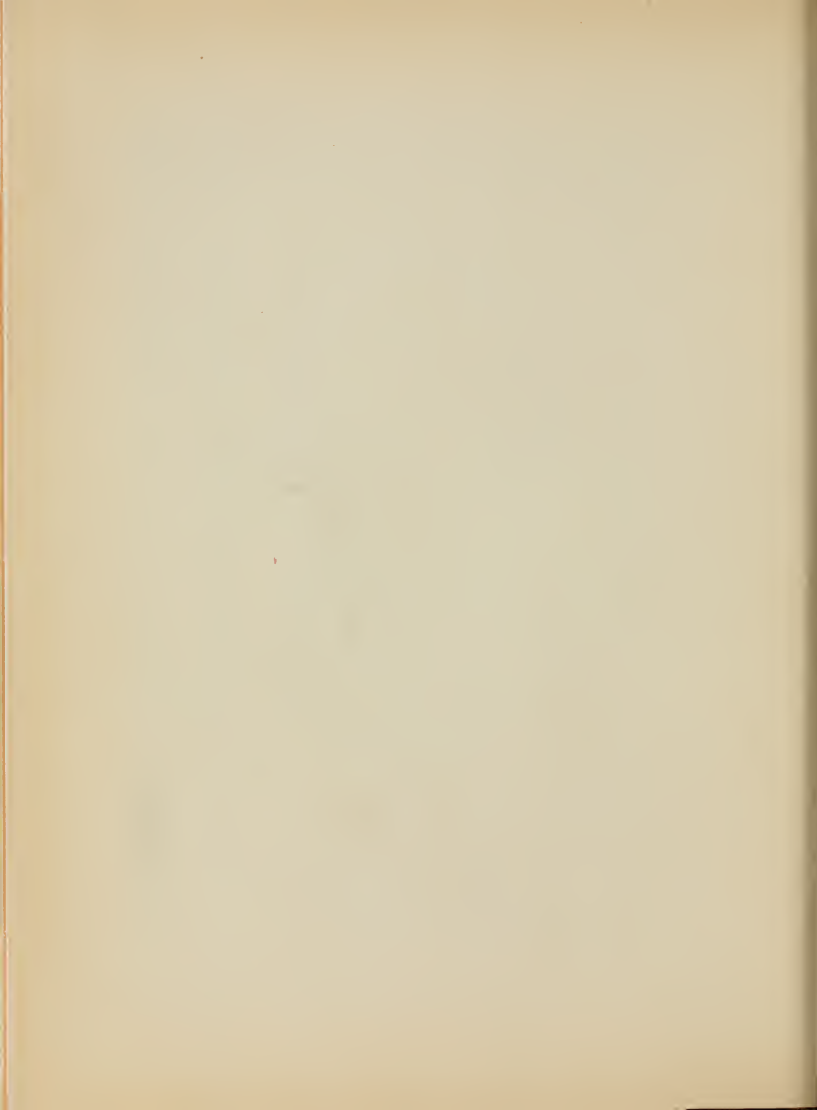


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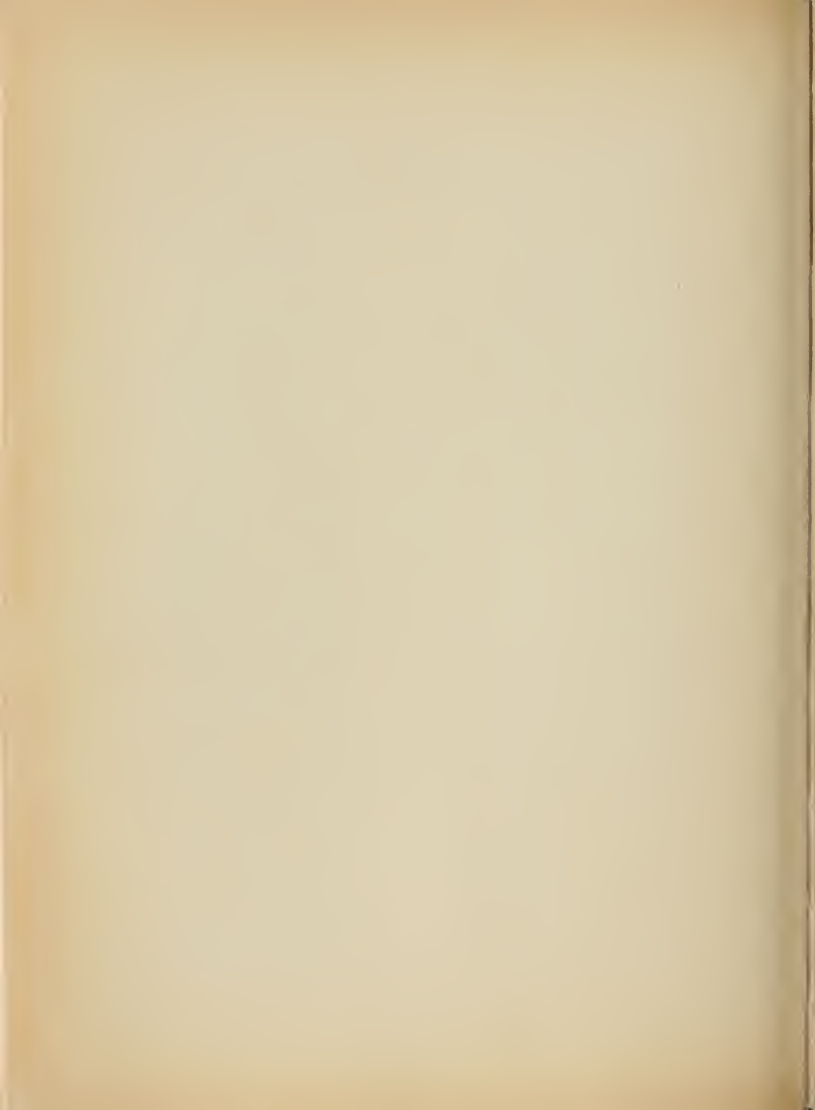
To the Genial Scientist
Mr. SAMUEL N. RHOADS, Philadelphia, Pa.
Whose Researches Have Made These Pages Possible
This Book is Respectfully Dedicated
By the Author



INDEX

INTRODUCTION	9
Chapter I. FOSSIL AND EXTINCT PENN. SYLVANIA DEER	12
Chapter II. BIG DEER	16
Chapter III. LITTLE DEER	27
Chapter IV. GRAY MOOSE, OR ELK	31
Chapter V. BLACK MOOSE	36
Chapter VI. DEER HUNTERS' STORIES	40
Chapter VII. SOME FAMOUS STAGS	71
Chapter VIII. DEER HORNS	87
Chapter IX. ELK HORNS	112
Chapter X. MOOSE HORNS	116







In a Pennsylvania Deer Forest
(Photo. Courtesy Pennsylvania Dep't of Forestry)



E. N. WOODCOCK, (At left)
A Famous Black Forest Deer Hunter



INTRODUCTION.

The killing of 1000 wild stags in Pennsylvania in 1912 established the high water mark for the noble sport in this State in recent years. Probably fifty thousand hunters, more or less skilled, participated in the chase, a veritable army of annihilation. These figures show the popularity of deer hunting, the importance of the sport to the every-day citizen. The onslaught of 1912 was too terrific for the deer tribe to withstand. In the year following probably 500 at most were killed. This year, in the season just coming to a close, about a like number were brought to earth. Up to 1912 the number of deer killed each year steadily increased, thanks to the enactment of wise protective laws and the advent of Dr. Joseph Kalbfus, from the low water mark of 150 killed in the entire State in 1898, to the splendid legion of 1912. Dr. C. Hart Merriam, writing in 1883, said that five hundred to eight hundred deer (stags and does), had been killed annually in the Adirondack wilderness in New York for ten years prior to that date. Later on these figures mounted up into the thousands, but per square mile more deer were killed in Pennsylvania in 1912 than ever "bit the dust" in the famed "North Woods." The future of the sport in Pennsylvania is uncertain. The great luck of the hunters in the "banner years" has multiplied their numbers. For-

est fires, the inroads of civilization, dogs at large, and the freedom from predatory birds and animals to prey on weakly or diseased specimens, have all added a question mark to the continuance of the sport. But it is hoped that matters will adjust themselves, and this pastime, which has brought out the best in manhood in all ages, can be ours for untold generations to come.

The purpose of these pages is not to describe Pennsylvania deer and their habits; it is not a natural history treatise. Mr. S. N. Rhoads, in his "Mammals of Pennsylvania and New Jersey," has performed that task for all time. The purpose of the following pages is to establish a standard of comparison of old and new types of Pennsylvania deer and their horns. By presenting descriptions and measurements of the best known heads of moose, elk and deer killed in the Commonwealth, an added zest will be given to the efforts of collectors and hunters.

To the regret of all good sportsmen, the moose in Pennsylvania was exterminated over a century ago, or about the same time as the bison. The elk lingered on until 1877. The "big deer" (*Odocoileus americanus borcalis* Miller) became extinct in its pure type within the last decade, but we still have cross-breeds and numbers of the "little deer," (*Odocoileus virginianus*).



Potter County Deer, Killed 1913, Showing modern type of Antlers



It will be interesting to compare the weights of deer killed in future years with those of the past, to measure their antlers with those of by-gone days. It will be the only sure way of telling if our deer are advancing or standing still, or, if deteriorating, how much so. It will perhaps lead to the sport those who have never felt the cool breezes of the Pennsylvania highlands. It is the thrill that caused Alexander Pope to write in his "Windsor Forest": "The youth rush eager to the sylvan war * * * Rouse the fleet hart and cheer the opening hound." The author makes no claim for exactness or completeness in these pages; it is a "pioneer" work, merely "blazing the way" for future investigations.

HENRY W. SHOEMAKER.

Altoona Tribune Office.

November 21, 1914.



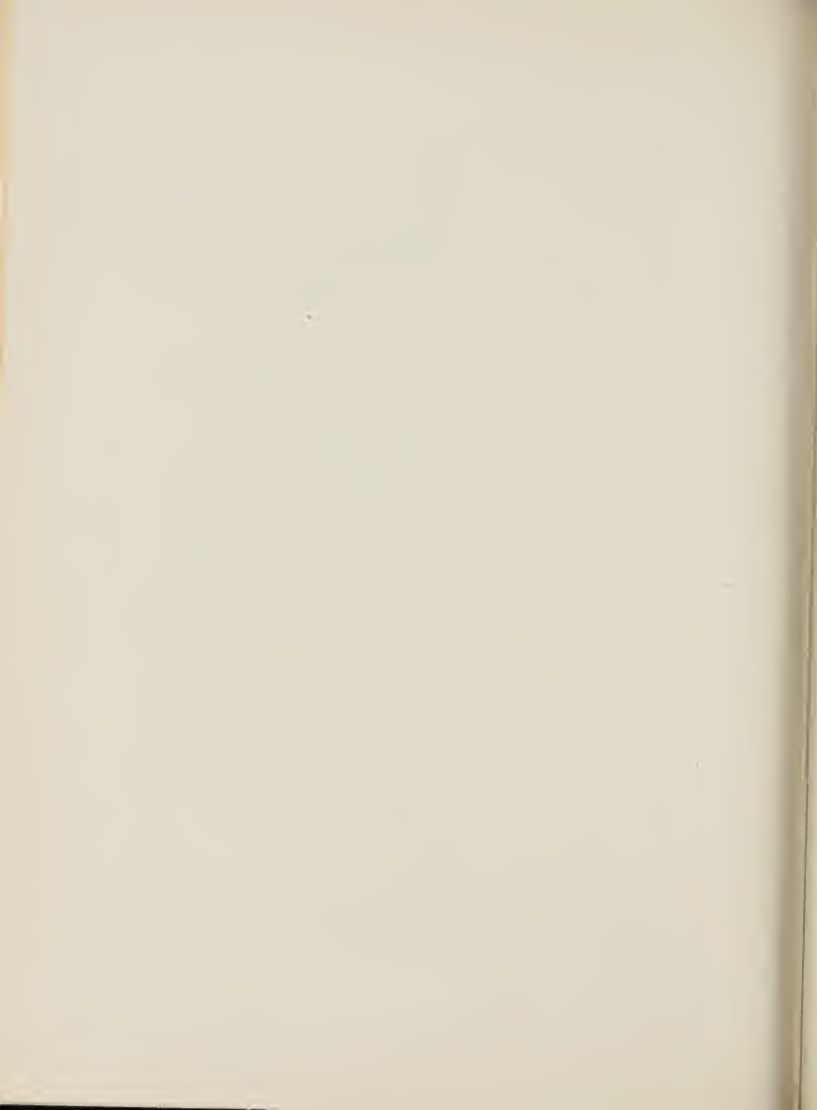
FOSSIL AND EXTINCT PENNSYLVANIA
DEER.

R. S. N. RHOADS, in his authoritative book, "The Mammals of Pennsylvania and New Jersey," gives a carefully prepared list of fossil remains of deer found in Pennsylvania. They are as follows:—

(1) Cope's cameloid deer, unearthed in the Port Kennedy cave in 1871; (2) Eastern American Moose, from the Riegelsville or Durham cave; (3) Woodland Caribou, from Hartman's cave near Stroudsburg; (4) Elk, or Wapiti, discovered in both Hartman's and Durham caves; (5) Virginia deer, both Northern and Southern races, (the "Big" and "Little Deer" of the hunters); (6) Slender-Horned Fossil Deer from the Port Kennedy Cave. It would be well to mention that the cave at Port Kennedy was discovered in a limestone quarry in Montgomery County and furnished a rich collection of extinct Pennsylvania animals. In a letter recently received by the author of these pages, Mr. Rhoads says: "This list is a complete one, up to the time of writing my



A Souvenir of the Deer Forest
(Mounted by C. H. Eldon)



book in 1903. If there are any more specimens in existence I do not know of them."

The above fossil species date from the Pleistocene period. Prof. Alfred Russel Wallace, writing on this subject, said: "The American deer constitute an old world group. They passed over to North and South America during the Miocene period." It will, therefore, be seen that the moose, elk, and both races of the Virginia deer, caribou, as well as others of the deer family, are known to have ranged over this State in the distant past. Of these the moose and elk remained until the nineteenth century, though it is possible that after the middle of the eighteenth century the moose were visitors from the North, driven in occasionally by forest fires, dogs, wolves, or hunger. Our elk was a local variety, somewhat different in color and conformation from New England or Western elk.

Among the Indians many legends of gigantic moose, elk and deer were current. These legends probably date back to ancient times when these animals were in their prime within our borders. There may yet be uncovered remains of gigantic moose, and elk, in Pennsylvania, of proportions similar to the huge Irish elk, (*Megaceros hibernicus*.) Then again the Indians' legends may date from dim ancestral periods when the forerunners of their race lived in Europe or Asia and

encountered the extinct types of mammoth moose and elks in the forests.

It is interesting to think that so many of the species of Pennsylvania deer which were prevalent in pre-historic times are still with us, or have been up to the beginning of the last century. It means that our mountains, swamps, and valleys are an ideal home for these picturesque and useful creatures. As time goes on, other fossil remains may be discovered which will throw fresh light on conditions as they existed within our borders. Renewed efforts should be made to find suitable caves, and explorations in swamps and bogs, and along streams might be pursued profitably. The complete story of the deer in Pennsylvania from earliest times has yet to be written, as there are many gaps in the chain. It may one day be some one's good fortune to find the missing links and create a work of unexcelled interest and charm.

As to the "extinction" of various pre-historic animals, it seems doubtful to the writer if any of them became "extinct" in the full sense of the word. Man with his modern weapons and relentless warfare against animal life has wiped out some like the Quagga and Burchell's Zebra (*E. b. typicus*) in the nineteenth century, and *Bos taurus primigenius* in the eighteenth century, is rapidly exterminating



Not the Allies Mobilized, Only a Group of Clinton County Deer Hunters
(E. A. Schwenk is fifth from right, standing)



many other species. Just as modern deer are surely deteriorating—compare Scottish heads of today with those of fifty years ago—and the same of Adirondack heads, the giant deer of the past maybe are found in modern forms, sadly diminished in size and vigor.

J. G. Millais says that the horns of the extinct Irish elk “most closely resemble those of its modern representative, the fallow buck.” Would it not be possible that the fallow buck is the degenerate descendant of *megaceros hibernicus*, and not merely his “pale shadow!” Changes in antlers and structure are slight during this vast lapse of years, when we think of how the bison of the plains altered its form during the last few years of its wild existence. George Bird Grinnell and Dr. W. T. Hornaday mention this rapid alteration to suit new conditions very concisely in their writings. (“Buffalo Days,” Grinnell; “Extinction of the American Bison,” Hornaday). “It is impossible” dogmatic science will say, “the bones of extinct and modern forms are found side by side.” Perhaps. Tall and short men live side by side today.

II.

BIG DEER.



DOCOILEUS americanus borealis Miller is unquestionably the true deer of Pennsylvania. It is the "Northern deer" of the Adirondacks, though some scientists say that it is the *Southern* form of that variety. It is the "Pennsylvania Hart" of Colonial days, the "white faced deer" of the backwoodsmen of the last century. Rowland Ward, in his "Records of Big Game" says that the Northern deer is "succeeded in Canada and New England by a larger and grayer variety." This would seem to admit three types of the species, (1) the Big Deer of Pennsylvania; (2) the Adirondack deer; (3) the deer of Canada and the New England States, in the East alone. In the West the "Big Deer" is still found until replaced by black-tail and mule deer.

In Colonial days the Pennsylvania Hart ranged over the whole of Pennsylvania, except what is now the Southern tier of counties. Roughly speaking, its numbers began to diminish South of the Juniata. In

the Southern counties the "Little Deer" fought with it for possession of the territory. Always of a mild disposition, more like the red deer of Europe, than the smaller variety, it would not have yielded ground but for superior numbers.

The Big Deer felt the full force or unrestrained hunting for a hundred years. By the time that adequate game laws were passed and enforced, they were practically extinct in Pennsylvania. Hounding, trapping, driving, crusting, jacking, butchering at salt licks, gradually reduced their numbers, until at the present time they are entirely gone from the Commonwealth except as mixed-breeds. Unlike the "Little Deer" they were fond of travelling in herds. "Adirondack" Murray, writing in 1869, mentions this, but says, "There are no herds East of the Alleghenies," evidently forgetting Pennsylvania. The first settlers saw herds of five hundred at a time, usually led by a magnificent stag, attended by several younger stags or "satellites." These J. G. Millais calls "fags", as applied to the deer of the British Isles. It may be interesting here to state that this great authority on British deer is now fighting with the Allies.

There was a small herd in the Black Forest, which refused to be broken up. It still numbered a dozen individuals in 1900. Cal. Wagner, a noted hunter

of the Seven Mountains, in 1876, came upon a herd of 30 Big Deer on the high plateau above Zerby Station. There was a herd of at least twenty in Clearfield County in the eighties. The herds were banded together from earliest days for mutual protection from human and animal foes. The old, experienced stags which led them were the "brains," though the younger satellittes performed outpost duty of no mean nature. But there were too many hunters, and the stately Pennsylvania Hart in his pure form ceased to exist. Superb animals of this variety were admired for many years in the paddocks of the Park Hotel in Williamsport.

The Big Deer, apart from their size, carried enormous racks of horns. These antlers were beautifully formed and beaded, of a rich brown in color, shading to old ivory color at the tips. Good specimens from the Seven Mountains are hanging on the walls of the dining room of the historic old Baker House at Lewisburg and in many old homesteads in the State. F. C. Selous says, "A good specimen of the Northern deer will weigh 175 pounds." Dr. W. T. Hornaday mentions a fine Maine deer as weighing, cleaned, 278 pounds. Clement F. Herfacher, of Clinton County, killed a deer in the White Deer Mountains weighing, dressed, 240 pounds, and another weighing 235

pounds. Nelson Tyrrell, of Bradford County, who died in 1911, killed a stag in his home county which weighed 350 pounds as it fell. E. N. Woodcock, of Potter County, shot a stag which, dressed, weighed 220 pounds. A stag weighing 230 pounds, dressed, was killed in Poe Valley in 1914. It had nine points on each horn. Marcus Killam, greatest of Pike County hunters, killed a stag which, dressed, tipped the beam at 306 pounds. John P. Swope, of Huntingdon County, killed a Big Deer which weighed 225 pounds, without the head, horns, hide or entrails. He says "deer are fatter in October than in any other month." Aaron Hall, of Centre County, said that the heaviest deer he killed weighed 225 pounds. S. J. Pealer, now of Columbia County, says that the biggest deer he ever killed weighed, dressed, 260 pounds. It was shot near Shickshinny, Luzerne County.

As the best of Scottish wild stags seldom weigh over 250 pounds, clean, it can be seen that the Pennsylvania Hart was an animal of considerable size. The average for mature bucks can be safely put at 200 pounds. Dr. J. T. Rothrock, founder of the Pennsylvania Department of Forestry, which has been taken as a model by all the States, and who, this autumn, killed two stags in Maine, and is an ardent sportsman despite his 75 years, makes the following

comments anent deer and deer hunting in the Keystone State:

“In my boyhood days 200 pounds live weight was not an unusual weight for a buck in Pennsylvania. Naturally, such deer are becoming very scarce. It is well to note that there are two well marked varieties of deer in this State, i. e., the short legged, big bodied ones, “the swampies,” as they called them when I hunted in Luzerne County, and the long-legged, thin bodied ones. The latter, the typical deer of the South, ranged more widely. Of course, these two forms shaded into each other. It is also well to observe that in Adams County one meets occasionally with large horns that have quite a tendency to be flat instead of round. Mr. John Irvin, of Buchanan Valley, in that County, had a fine set of such horns. I presume that he has them still. He valued them so highly that he would not sell the horns to me about ten years ago.

The most successful deer hunters that I knew in Mifflin County were Isaac Walls and John Walters. The Stayrooks, Millers, Yoders and Harshbargers, (Pennsylvania Germans living at the foot of the Licking Creek Mountains) were all deer hunters. All are dead now, I think. I do not believe that any of those with whom I hunted as a boy are alive now in Mifflin County.



Virginian or "Little Deer" Killed at Its Extreme Northern Limit, Potter County, 1914



Some of the leading citizens of Wilkes-Barre thirty-five or forty years ago were not only earnest but successful deer hunters. Col. R. Bruce Ricketts, Harrison Wright, the Hillard Brothers, Edward Darling, Judge Garrick Harding and Judge Dana were among the number. I am sorry that I cannot give you more information, but, by the way, there is one other man whom I must mention, "Jim Irvin," who, 58 years ago, lived at the forks of the Tionesta and was axeman and stake driver for our engineer corps when we were locating what is now the Philadelphia & Erie R. R., and who had the winter before I met him sixty (60) deer hung up in the woods of Elk County and Forest County before Christmas and was waiting for a snow to sled them to Smethport to ship them to New York. This statement he gave me when I first met him, and he repeated it to me thirty-five years afterwards.

The largest deer killed in Pennsylvania recently was one shot this season by Mr. Darlington Beebe, of West Chester, while hunting in Pike County. As it fell, it weighed 250 pounds. It probably had a good deal of the old "swampie" blood in its composition.

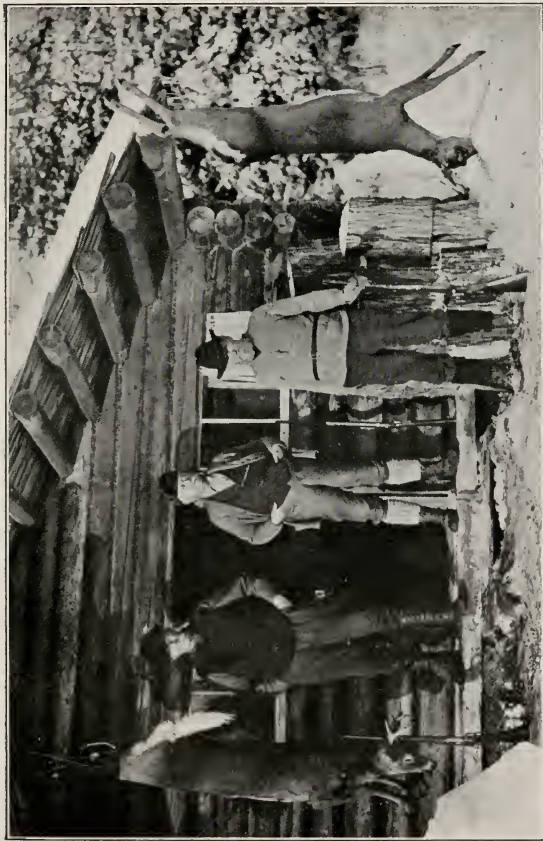
William Penn, in a letter to friends in London, described the Pennsylvania deer as "larger than those in England." Judge J. D. Caton in his "Antelope and Deer of America" says, "The largest Common

Deer" of which I have any authentic account was killed in Michigan, and weighed before being dressed, 246 pounds." *This would look as if the old-type Northern Deer of Pennsylvania were the largest Virginia Deer in the United States.*

Rev. George P. Donehoo, D. D., of Coudersport, Pa., Secretary of the State Historical Commission, has kindly furnished the following interesting information concerning the history of deer in Pennsylvania:

"That Pennsylvania was once the haunt of vast numbers of deer is shown by the great number of 'deer licks' in various parts of the State. These licks, in many places, still preserve their Indian name of 'Mahoning' at the deer lick. This name is found in many combinations from the Delaware to the Ohio. 'Nesquehoning' at the black lick, 'Sinne-mahoning' at the stony lick, 'Kita-honing' at the big lick, etc.

"Before the coming of the white man and the consequent introduction of fire-arms and the commercial hunting by the Indian, the deer roamed in great herds over the entire State. It was hunted, as was the buffalo, for such food and clothing as the Indian needed for his daily wants. After the white man came, the deer hides became an article of commerce, and, as a consequence, the deer was hunted for com-



Dr. J. T. Rothrock founder of Pennsylvania Forestry Department (at right) with Companions at their
Hunting Camp in Maine, 1914



mercial purposes. Zeisberger states that in one season an Indian would kill from fifty to one hundred and fifty deers, simply for the hides. Only a part of the deer meat was used by the hunters, the corpse being left in the woods for the wild beasts. As a consequence of this, great droves of wolves would follow in the wake of these Indian hunting parties. It is said, that these wolves would first be attracted by the noise made by the rifles of the hunters.

The hunting season commenced in September and lasted until about the first of January. During this season the hides were in the best condition, as was also the flesh. The price which an Indian received for a buck hide, was a Spanish dollar. A buckskin became a sort of standard of value; a thing was sold for so many "bucks." Hence our slang phrase, of which so few people know the origin. Two doe-skins were worth "one buck." The trade in these buckskins became a most profitable enterprise for the Indian traders of Pennsylvania, Virginia and Maryland, as they followed the Indian into the Ohio Valley, and was one of the causes of the rivalry between the traders of France and Great Britain for the possession of the Ohio.

The deer occupied a prominent place in the traditions of the Indians. Among the Delawares the Poke-

kooungo, or Turtle Clan, had as one of its sub-clans the Kwisaekeesto, or Deer Clan. Neither of the two other main clans had a deer sub-clan.

One of the Seneca clans is named for the Deer, Neoge, "cloven-foot," but the clan is called "Hadin-iongwiiu," "those whose nostrils are large and fine looking." The original clans of the Seneca were the Bear, Wolf, Turtle, Deer, Snipe, Heron and Hawk. The Bear, Wolf and Turtle are the elder clans and occupy a more prominent place in the Councils. Among the Seneca, Onondaga and Cayuga the clans are divided into two Phratries, the Animal and the Bird. Very strangely the Deer heads the Bird Phratry.

The various Clan Rights are most interesting. Among these may be mentioned the few following rights: Representation in the Council of the Tribe, rights to certain songs, right to use the common clan name and totem, etc. A member of the Wolf Clan could not marry a member of that clan, even in another tribe. For example, a Seneca Wolf could not marry an Onondaga Wolf. It is possible that many of the Anglo-Saxon customs have about the same origin.

The Clan Totem (Bear, Wolf, Deer, etc.) was in olden times placed upon each tent or cabin, much as

our ancestors placed their Coat-of-Arms of their castles, shields, etc. All Wolves were "Brothers," as were all "Deers," etc.

Many of the customs of these clans are almost identical with those of the clans of Scotland before the development of the nation. In fact, the early history of all nations or races is much the same.

One of the songs in the initiation to the Seneca Medicine Lodge, as given by Mrs. Converse, is that of the Buck and Doe, and is as follows:

"How the cold shivers me.
 No snow is falling now.
 Where does the sun's fire hide?
 Something comes roaring loud,
 Swift-footed, warning me.
 Its breath blinds the night eyes,
 Like rainy vapor falls.
 Now it walks close to me,
 Warming and coaxing me,
 Where the black forest frowns."

To the Indian of the East the deer meant food, shelter and clothing, as did the buffalo to the Indian of the West. It is small wonder then that the "Deer" occupied such an important place in the traditions and songs of the eastern Indians. The body of the deer furnished the Indian with so many articles of

daily use that it is possible to mention but a few. The bowstring was often made of the green deer skin; the shoulder blade was used as a hoe; the prongs of the horns were used as flint-choppers, scrapers, etc.; the heads were used in various ceremonies, and the antlers were symbols of power and so of chieftainship; the teeth and small bones were used as dice in various games; the small bones were made into needles for sewing the hides with thread made out of the sinew, and the bone and horns were carved as ornaments. In fact, there was hardly any part of the deer which was not made use of by the Indian for food, shelter, clothing, arms, agricultural implements, household utensils, decorations, games, fishing tackle, etc.

The most prominent Indian village in Pennsylvania, Shamokin, which stood at the site of the present Sunbury, was called Shumokenk, "the place of antlers," or "where antlers are a plenty." This name may have been given because of the great numbers of antlers which were found at this site after the antler shedding season, which was December."

Among the early Germans of Pennsylvania, according to Thomas H. Harter, ("Boonestiel") the deer, singular and plural, were called *harsh*; the male deer was the harsh-buck.



EDWARD H. DICKINSON (1810-1890)
Who killed over 1100 Deer in the Forests of Northern
Pennsylvania



III.

LITTLE DEER.



DOCOILEUS virginianus is the deer most commonly met with by Pennsylvania hunters of to-day. True enough, there are many mixed breeds, as well as imported Kansas, Michigan and even Texas deer, but the prevailing and strongest type is that of the Little Deer. In the old days the "Little Deer" were seldom found North of the Juniata, but as the Big Deer diminished they slowly extended their range northward. Fifty years ago a few had drifted North and were killed in the Seven Mountains and in the Bald Eagle Mountains. To the old hunters they were known as "shovel-horned deer." Their horns were so small and the tips so close together, that they suggested a shovel or fork to the nimrods.

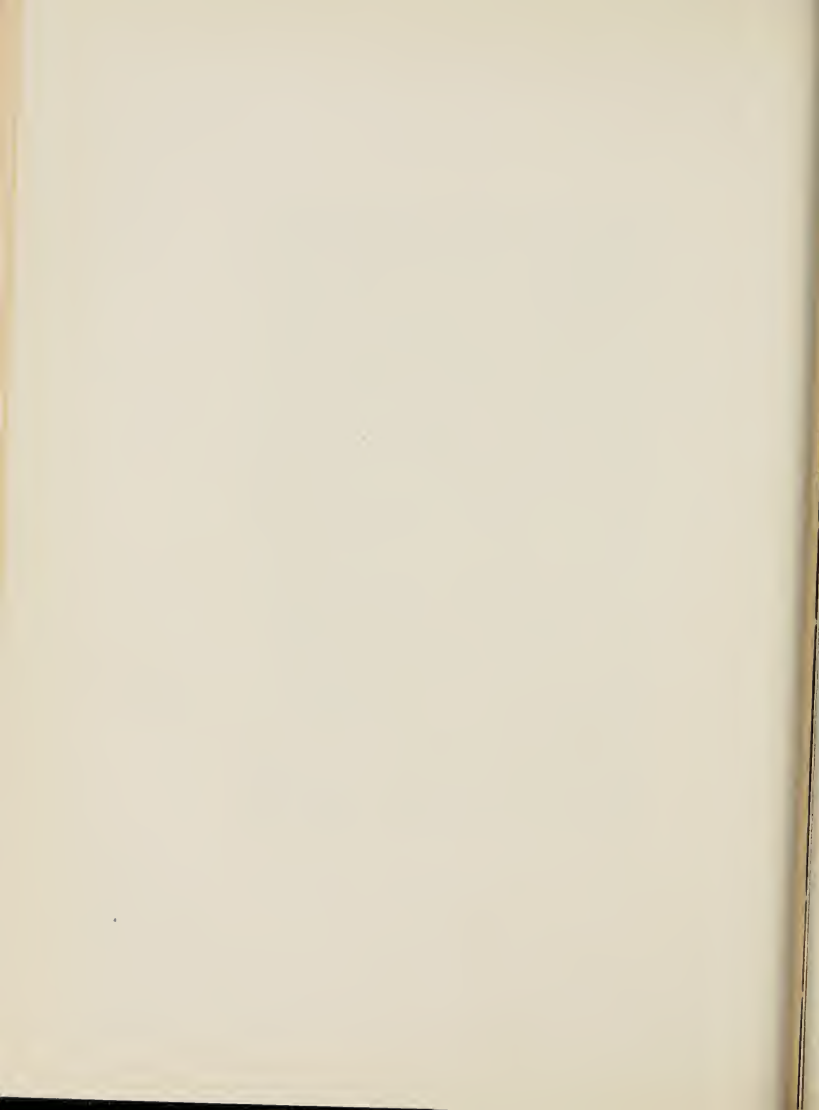
It is very seldom that the Little Deer (pure stock) have more than three points on each horn, and never, except freaks, have over four points. With four points on each horn they are called in Pennsylvania "Four Prong Bucks." According to foreign stand-

ards, they would be styled eight-pronged. The horns are small in circumference, smooth, generally irregular, ungraceful and of a yellowish color. They are in no sense of the word "Helmeted Stags," like the Big Deer of other days. In weight they are considerably less than the Big Deer. The heavy deer killed in various parts of Pennsylvania during the present season are mostly mixed breeds, part "Big Deer" and part "Little Deer." Some few may be Michigan bucks, brought into the State by Dr. Kalbfus. According to newspaper accounts, a dozen deer weighing over two hundred pounds apiece have been killed in the Seven Mountains alone. C. H. Eldon says: "The Virginia deer is not as large as the deer most plentiful now in Pennsylvania. The Michigan and Wisconsin, also Maine Deer have been introduced and consequently crossed with the true type of the Virginia Deer and the result is a larger variety." The writer has purposely included no data concerning the imported deer in this book on the *Deer of Pennsylvania*.

The deer of Northeastern Pennsylvania, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Pike and Wayne Counties have the most characteristics of the old "Big" race. Still, all have a mixture of outside blood. With the extinction of the pure type of the Northern variety of deer, the



SETH IREDELL NELSON (1809-1905)
Slayer of 2000 Pennsylvania Deer, and at least 100 Elk
(He lived at Round Island, in Clinton County)



“Little Deer” trooped up into Pennsylvania *en masse* from Maryland and West Virginia. During a recent trip through the mountains of the latter State, Charles H. Eldon, the well-known naturalist, of Williamsport, Pa., was told that deer were very scarce, and it was blamed on the migrations to Pennsylvania. The “Little Deer,” or, as they may be properly termed, Virginian deer, were always great rovers. They were of pugnacious disposition and more adaptable than the heavier deer of the North. They were fond of “playgrounds,” where they chased one another in circles on grass plats. These have been called by some “Fairy Parks” in certain parts of Pennsylvania. Some even cut “figure eights” where a tree stood in the centre of their sporting places.

Despite their sagacity, Virginian Deer are often lured to their death by music. Like the famous herd of twenty fallow bucks, which were once brought from Yorkshire to Hampton Court, led by music from a bagpipe and a violin, these “Little Deer” frequently approach lumber camps and settlers’ cabins towards dusk where there are fiddlers or players on mouth-organs, and are easily shot. It is related that Fiddler’s Green on Potato Creek in McKean County, was named for a famous greensward where the deer danced to the music played by an eccentric back-

woodsman named Vincent Hogarth. But whether these were "Little Deer" is uncertain, as the date of the occurrences was before their range extended so far North. The older Pennsylvania hunters called the males of the "Big" Deer *harts*, and later *stags*. They always called the males of the "Little" Deer *bucks*.

A pure-blooded Virginian buck will weigh, dressed, 150 pounds. Some will weigh as high as 175 clean, but a careful record would undoubtedly show the average to be twenty pounds under that figure.





DEER IN A PARK

(From a Photo. by Mrs. Henry W. Shoemaker)



IV.

GRAY MOOSE, OR ELK.



ERVUS canadensis was called by the first settlers in Pennsylvania the Canadian, or Pennsylvania Stag. In those days they ranged over the entire State. William Penn mentions them as being killed near Philadelphia in the early part of the eighteenth century, while Peter Kalm, the Swedish naturalist of *Kalmia* fame, records their presence in the same locality at a slightly later date. They lingered in the "Elk Forest" in the Pocono Mountains until a century later. Probably the last in that region was killed as late as 1845. As they never enjoyed the protection of game laws, their numbers steadily decreased all over the State. As attesting to their former prevalence, Philip Tomb, the greatest Pennsylvania hunter of modern times, states that during the early part of the nineteenth century his brother, Jacob, killed from 25 to 30 Pennsylvania elks annually, while he killed an almost similar number every year.

The bull elks of Pennsylvania were enormous animals. According to Col. Noah Parker, of Gardeau,

McKean County, they frequently weighed 1200 pounds and stood 17 hands at the shoulders. Judge Caton, of Illinois, owned a tame elk which at five years, weighed 900 pounds and stood over sixteen hands at the withers. Philip Tomb says that their horns were often six feet long. They were longer bodied, and apparently shorter legged than other eastern or the western elk. In conformation, they were more like huge caribou. In color they inclined more to the drab than the dun or brown, and often had dark brown dappling or spots. They "yarded" or congregated in swamps in winter, and in summer were fond of bathing in deep pools. Dr. W. J. McKnight, in his inimitable "Pioneer Outline History of Northwestern Pennsylvania," quotes the greatest elk hunter in Jefferson County, Bill Long, as saying that they particularly enjoyed bathing in the Clarion River. Philip Tomb says, that elk milk was nearly equal to that of a cow, both in quality and quantity.

The elks remained longer in Pennsylvania than in New York State, although J. E. DeKay in "Natural History of New York" says they existed in Allegany County (N. Y.) in 1842. A splendid elk was killed in Bolivar, that County, in 1844. In that section and in Northern Pennsylvania they were known

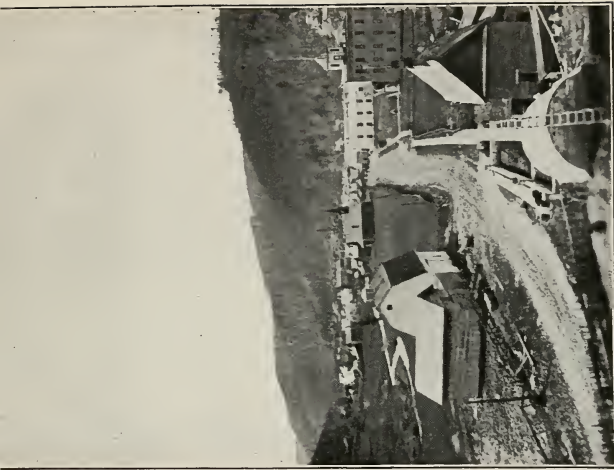
as Gray Moose to distinguish them from the Black Moose or Original. Dr. J. D. Schoepf, an educated German, who traveled in Pennsylvania in 1783-4, and whose book "Travels in the Confederation" is a classic, alluded to them by that name. Spangenberg, in describing his trip to the Onondaga country in 1745, calls the elks "wild horses," probably only having seen cows, or bulls with small horns. It is interesting to note the decrease of these noble animals in our State. At present there are groups of sportsmen who urge the claims of various persons as slayers of the "last elk." Taken by sections, the last elk in the Blue Mountains was killed about 1800; in the Pocono Mountains in 1845; in Lackawanna County five or ten years earlier. Caleb Mitchell killed the last elk of the Seven Mountains at the head of Treaster Valley, Mifflin County, in 1857. James David killed the last elk in Clearfield County in May, 1865. It was brought to Lock Haven on a raft from the mouth of Medix Run, where it was killed. This date is authoritative, as the great hunter's son, Flavius J. David, the noted surveyor, is residing in Lock Haven at present and recalls the episode. Jim Jacobson, a half-bred Indian, born in 1848, killed an elk in Elk County in 1867, and others annually until Nov. 19, 1875, when he killed his last near Roulette, Potter County.

Jacobson died near Quaker Bridge, New York, November 1, 1912. Jim Jacobs, a full-blooded Seneca, born in 1790, often confused with Jacobson through the similarity in names, and who was killed by a railroad train at Bradford, Pa., on the afternoon of February 24, 1880, slew at least a dozen elk in his day, the last at Flag Swamp in 1867. Smith Hunter, of partly Indian blood, killed an elk near Ridgway in 1869. Captain Cecil Clay mentioned this episode to Col. Roosevelt, who used it in some of his writings.

But the distinction of killing the last Pennsylvania elk belongs to John D. Decker, of Decker Valley, Centre County, who on September 1, 1877, killed a young male elk which had evidently been driven South by forest fires. The great hunter's wife was witness to this notable achievement, and the skull and horns hung for many years on the Decker out-kitchen. At the present time they are in the possession of the writer of these pages. All hail John Decker, mighty nimrod! The last elk captured alive in Pennsylvania is said to have been taken by lumbermen on Little Pine Creek, near Waterville, in Lycoming County, about 1860. It was roped, and crated, and carried on a raft to Marietta where it was presented to Col. James Duffy, for whom the capturers had been working, and it remained for many years an ornament to



DAVID A. ZIMMERMAN and Wife
Mr. Zimmerman was Sugar Valley's Greatest Deer Hunter



Mausoleum (in foreground) of Col. NOAH PARKER
Famous Deer and Elk Hunter, at Gardeau, Pa.
(He died in 1894)



the Colonel's private park. Up to the middle of the last century when the species began to grow scarce, there was quite a thriving business of catching elks alive in Northern Pennsylvania. Dr. W. J. McKnight quotes a price-list current about 1850, giving the amounts paid for live elks of various ages. One advertisement in the "Elk County Advocate" read as follows:—"Elk wanted. For a living male elk one year old I will give \$50; two years old \$75; three years old \$100; and for a fawn three months old \$25. Apply Caleb Dill, Ridgway, Pa." According to Dr. McKnight the average age of elk was fifty years.



V.

BLACK MOOSE.



LCES americanus Jardine as a frequent visitor to Pennsylvania until the beginning of the nineteenth century is now fully established. Many old hunters aver that it was a permanent resident until its extermination, although S. N. Rhoads, the authority on such matters, can find no supporting evidence. In Colonial times the moose was called in Pennsylvania the Black Moose, to distinguish it from the Gray Moose or Wapiti, but quite a few hunters gave it the quaint name of "Original." An aged Indian hunter, Tahment Swasen, who was admired by the gifted Thoreau, and who hunted in Pennsylvania, has explained the meaning of the name. The moose was supposed to be the ancestor or "daddy" of the entire deer tribe. Hence, was the *original* representative of the species on earth. This was proved, he said, by the fact that the Moose is found pretty much all over the Northern hemispheres of the world. De Kay says that Moose is a corruption of the Indian word *mosee* or "wood-eater." Dr. Schoepf, the distinguished German traveler, mentions



BILL LONG (1790-1880)
 Slayer of 3500 Deer in the Pennsylvania Forests
 (Photo, loaned by Dr. W. J. McKnight, Brookville, Pa.)



**Grave of Tom Fausett, near Ohiopyle Falls,
 Fayette County. Fausett Killed General
 Braddock in 1755 and was also the Leading
 Deerslayer of Southwestern Pennsylvania**
 (Photo, loaned by James Hadden, Uniontown, Pa.)



the Black Moose as occurring in Northampton County in 1783. It was also reported to him as being prevalent on the Alleghenies between what is now Altoona and Pittsburg. West of Fort Pitt it had lately been extirpated. H. Hollister, in his fascinating "History of the Lackawanna Valley," mentions Black Moose being killed in the Capouse Meadows near the present city of Scranton during the last decade of the eighteenth century. James Hennessy, a farmer residing at the Tamaraek Swamp in Northern Clinton County, dug up several pairs of fresh looking moose antlers on his property about fifty years ago, showing that the animals had ranged through that region in comparatively recent times.

A curious Indian legend recounted in "More Pennsylvania Mountain Stories," by the author of these pages, explains the existence of Moose in the Tamaraek Swamp. Before the white men came to Pennsylvania Black Moose doubtless bred in the State. They were found all over its extent, judging from accounts of reliable persons. They had their favorite paths, most of which led in a southwesterly direction across the State. They had favorite streams for bathing, like the elk. The Moshannon Creek in Centre County was formerly called Moose-hanne, or Moose stream. In its deep pools they were said by the In-

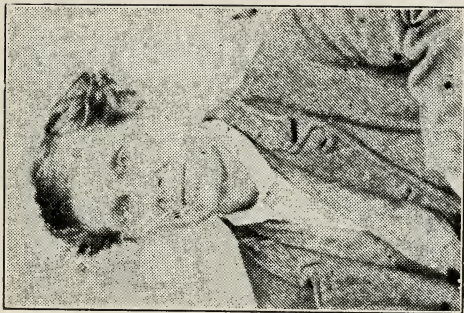
dians to perform religious rites when the moon was crescent shaped. There are two Moose Creeks in Clearfield County. They crossed the Delaware River from New York State, near, where the town of Narrowsburg now stands, for after the native stock had been destroyed they came as migrants from the North. "Driven thither by cold, dogs, or wolves," says Rhoads. From the Delaware they traveled in a westerly direction to Moosic Lake, in Lackawanna County. Great numbers were killed by the first settlers on the slopes of Mount Cobb, or Moosic Mountain,—the "*Imperial Moosic*" of the poet Caleb Earl Wright. From that region they ventured further South through the Wind Gap in the Blue Mountains, where they were slaughtered by the German pioneers in Northampton and Lehigh Counties.

The name "Original" is remembered by old people along the West Branch of the Susquehanna in Clinton County, showing that they must have crossed that river in the vicinity of Renovo to Keating on their way to their favorite Moshannon. Mr. Rhoads says, that Bartram in his "Miscellanies" refers to the Wapiti as the Original. But it was the name mostly given to the Black Moose. Dr. Merriam, in his splendid "*Quadrupeds of the Adirondacks*," a book which no nature lover or sportsman can afford to be without,



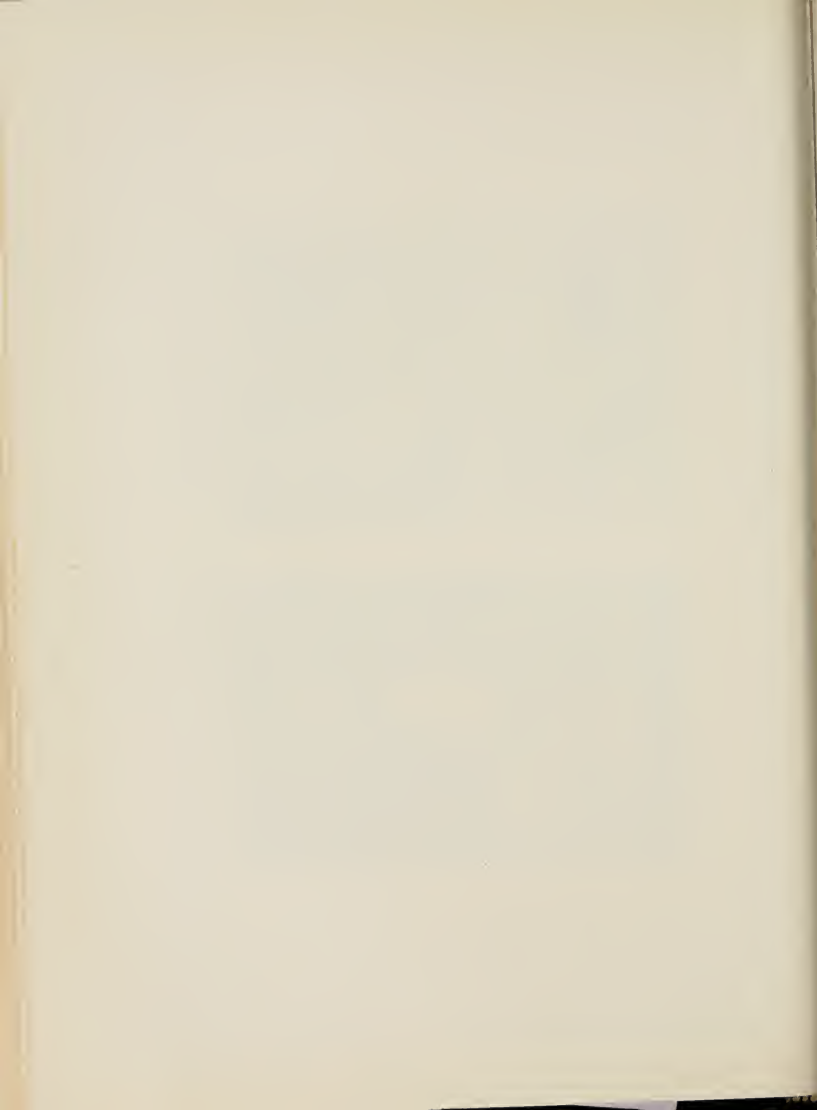
JOHN VANATTA PHILIPS

Famed in the Black Forest as a Deerslayer



JACOB P. HAMERSLEY

A noted Clinton County Deerslayer



states that the last Moose in the Adirondacks was killed in 1861. The height of this last specimen, which was a female, was seven feet at the hump and weighed 800 pounds. Among the last men in New York to kill a moose was Hon. Horatio Seymour, Governor of the State, and the antlers were much admired for many years at his home at Deerfield in Oneida County.

Verplanck Colvin in his report on the Adirondack Wilderness in New York, transmitted to the Legislature in April, 1874, says: "As a matter of zoological and general interest, I may mention that in a few of the most remote portions of the wilderness we have met with indications of the Moose, which, to some of the guides seemed unmistakable. This gigantic deer is, however, almost extinct in the Adirondacks, and I would suggest that it be made, in future, unlawful to kill or destroy the animal at any season."

Those who have heard the old-timers speak of the Original in Pennsylvania say that it was a creature of appalling size. It stood close to eight feet at the hump, and bulls often weighed a ton. The spread of the horns was tremendous, but the creatures handled these appendages with great dexterity.

VI.

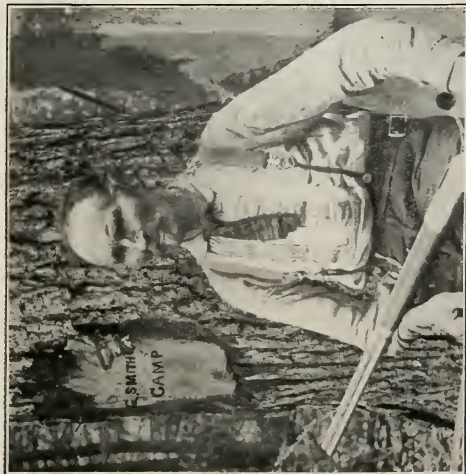
DEER HUNTERS' STORIES.



FROM time of immemorial the chase of the stag has added to the romance of nearly all the nations of the world. In India, in Japan, in Northern Africa, in Norway, Sweden, Germany, Spain and the British Isles, as well as North and South America, legends have clustered about it and made it a part of the national life. In Pennsylvania, where there was much diversity of race among the early settlers, and such an intimate association with the Indians, the picturesque side of the chase soon became a topic of absorbing interest. The hunters became a class apart, and those whom fortune most favored were linked with the supernatural. Feats of daring, such as climbing bold precipices, following for days the trail of some particularly mammoth Hart, coming out victorious in conflicts with hoof and horn of a wounded quarry, the slaughter of thousands of deer by certain individuals, raised the prestige of deer hunters to an extravagant degree. Buffon, in his celebrated "Natural History," graphically describes



JESSE HUGHES
A Famous Lycoming County Deer Hunter of the
Long Ago



GEORGE SMITH (1827-1901)
One of the Leading Deer Hunters of Northwestern
Pennsylvania
(Photo. loaned by Dr. W. J. McKnight)



the awe in which chamois hunters were held by natives of the Vale of Chamounix.

As riflemen in colonial and other wars, they were supposed to bear charmed lives. If a hunter could withstand a battle with a stag, and survive a horn or hoof thrust, he would be immune to the bullets of an enemy. There was an old saying among the first settlers, brought in doubtless from England, that: "If thou be hurt with hart, it brings thee to thy bier, but barber's hand will boar's hurt heal; therefore thou need'st not fear." There is a similar French proverb: "Après le cerf la biere, après le sanglier le miere."

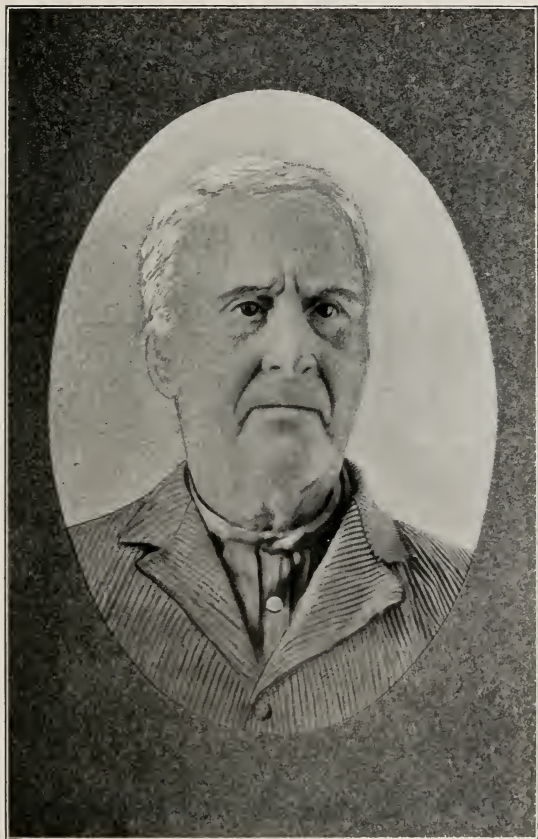
In Pennsylvania the points of deer horns and their hoofs were supposed to be poisoned, as the deer killed with them so many venomous snakes.

Among deer hunters, each section of our State has its local hero, its greatest deerslayer. Who the greatest of all in the Keystone State was or is, is still a mooted question. When Dr. Schoepf was traveling through the Commonwealth in 1783, he recorded in his "Travels" that many hunters killed as many as ten harts in a day. Elias Scott, the most famous hunter in Northeastern Pennsylvania, who died at an advanced age in 1868, killed 11 in one day, 175 in one season and 3 at one shot. John Q. Dyce, of

Clinton County, who died in 1904, shot 9 in one day, 98 in one season, and 3 at one shot. David Bryant, of Susquehanna County, killed 3 in one shot, and 1000 in 12 years. Jonathan Sabin, of the same county, killed 3 in one shot, and 7 with 5 shots. Daniel Spencer killed in the same county 1500 deer, and 60 with 1 pound of powder. The only other Eastern hunter whom we have heard of to kill three at one shot was Nathan Black, of Sullivan County, New York. In a letter to the writer, Prof. James M. Black, of Williamsport, Pa., the talented song writer, who was a son of the great nimrod, says:

“Your kind letter was received in due time. Yes, I remember well the remarkable shot my father once made while hunting deer in the open woods in the northwestern part of Sullivan County, N. Y.

“One morning he left home early. There was a good ‘tracking snow,’ and by a little after 12 o’clock noon that day he returned,—the happiest man, I think, I ever saw. He told mother and us boys that he had killed *three* deer at one shot—a buck, a doe and a fawn. We ‘hooked up’ a horse to a spring wagon and started back to the woods for the deer. We drove along an old log road to within about a quarter of a mile of the place where the deer were hanging. When we got there, sure enough, there they



LEWIS DORMAN

Slayer of the Famous Stag "Old Mosby," and the Mighty Panther Hunter
of the Seven Mountains



were, three of them. How we shouted and whooped. We joined hands, my oldest brother and I and father, and had a regular Indian dance around them. We carried the deer out and loaded them on the wagon and were home by dark that night.

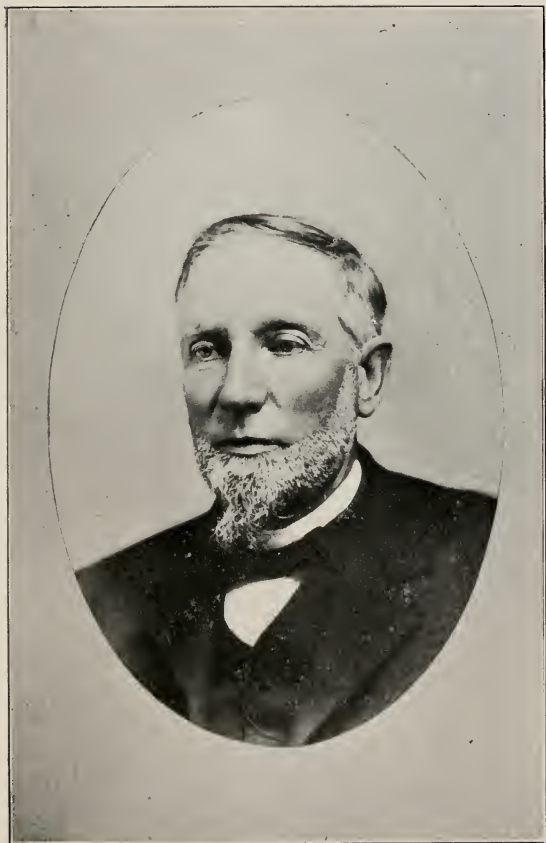
"Father said he only saw two deer when he fired, and they were *running*. The buck was shot through the lower part of the neck. I have forgotten where the doe was shot, but the ball struck the fawn in the nose. Father said he was not over seventy-five yards away when he fired. The buck went down at once; the doe ran about fifty yards and fell dead. When father got to where she was, he noticed tracks and blood leading on still further into the brush. Following the trail, he soon came upon the fawn. The blood had so clogged up the nostrils that it could not breathe and it fell utterly exhausted.

"In his book, 'Outdoor Pastimes of an American Hunter,' page 251, Col. Roosevelt tells of having shot two deer at two different times with one shot, but I have never known or heard of any one having killed *three* deer with one shot, except my father."

Mr. Dyce's exploit ran as follows (quoting from the writer's "Stories of Great Pennsylvania Hunters"): "Dyce's greatest hunting episode was killing three deer with a single shot at 100 yards. On the

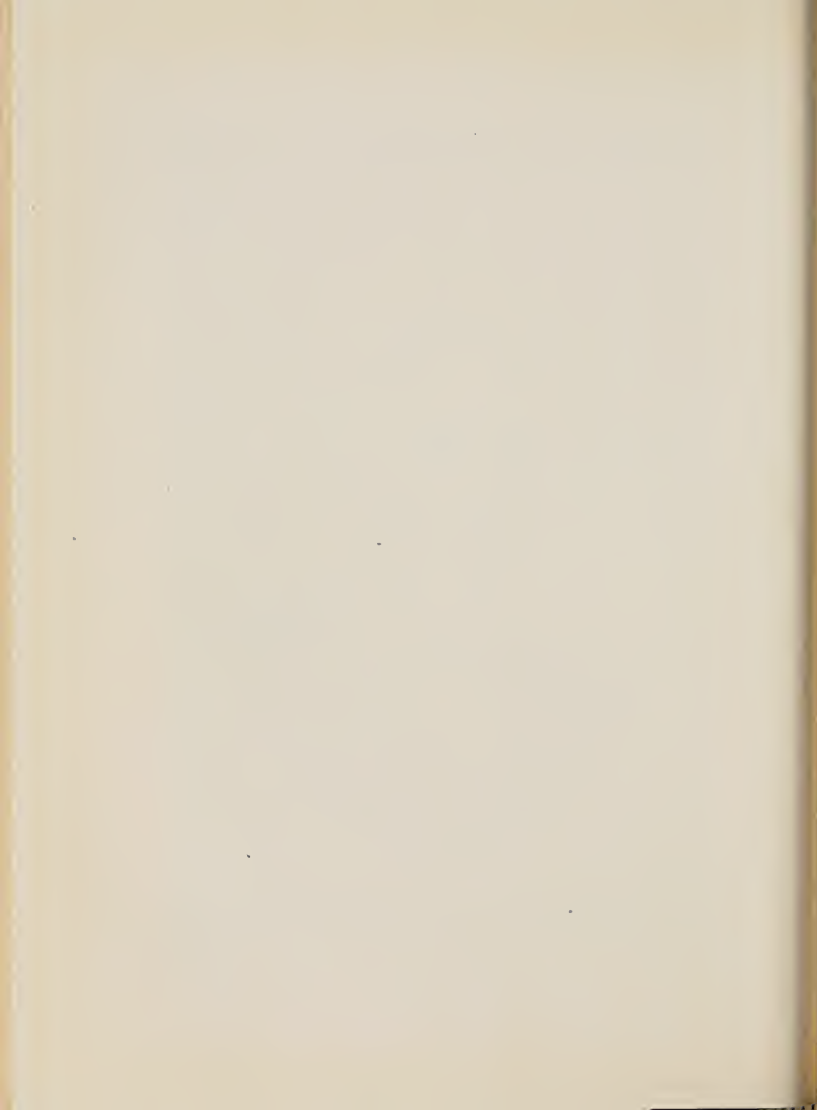
Spring Run Ridge he sighted a buck, a doe and a fawn standing together. He fired, the bullet piercing the brain of the buck, the throat of the doe, and lodging in the heart of the fawn." No details of Elias Scott's mighty shot are available, but it probably occurred in Lackawanna County about 1835. Tim Murphy, the famous rifleman of the Revolution, who spent his declining years on the banks of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, a few miles below Williamsport, is said to have slain over 4,000 deer in the Pennsylvania forests. At the battle of Stillwater, in 1777, he killed the British General Frazer, and turned the tide of the conflict in the Colonists' favor.

Bill Long, born in Berks County in 1790, died in Clearfield County in 1880, held the marvelous record of having slain 3500 Pennsylvania deer. He killed 225 in one season, 6 in one day and 2 in one shot. He was ten years old when he killed his first deer. His son, Andy Jackson Long, who was born and died in Jefferson County, killed 1500 deer, including 100 in a season, 6 in a day, and 2 in one shot. "Jack" Long died near Rumbarger (now DuBois) in 1900 at the age of 71 years. Samuel Askey, who died at Snow Shoe, Centre County, in 1857, at the age of 83 years, killed 2000 deer, of which 100 were killed in a single season and two at one shot. Seth Iredell



S. J. PEALER

A Resident of Columbia County, and Famous Deerslayer



Nelson, born in Union County in 1809, died at Round Island, Clinton County, in 1905, killed 1000 deer in his long career. As late as 1873, he killed 23 deer in one season. E. H. Dickinson, of McKean County, who killed his first deer in 1833, and his last one in 1887 just three years to a day before his death, slew over 1100 deer in the Pennsylvania forests.

George Smith, of Elk County, born in 1827, and who died in 1901, killed 3000 deer in Pennsylvania, including 7 in one day, and 2 at one shot. Nelson Gardner, of Elk County, killed, 1000 Pennsylvania deer, including 4 in one day, 125 in one season, and 2 at one shot. Daniel Karstetter was considered by many the greatest deer hunter on the northern border of the Seven Mountains. In his long career he killed 600 deer, including 4 in one day, and 2 at one shot. Marcus N. B. Killam, born in 1815, who died at Paupack, Pike County, in 1902, and who was the greatest deer hunter in northeastern Pennsylvania, killed 900 deer, including a superb buck which weighed, clean, 306 pounds. David A. Zimmerman, Sugar Valley's greatest deer hunter, who died in 1899 at the age of 78 years, killed 600 deer, and as many as 75 in one season. Nelson Tyrrell, of Bradford County, born in 1821, died in 1911, killed 500 deer, and 4 in one day. C. F. Herlacher, still living in Sugar

Valley, has killed 400 Pennsylvania deer, and his neighbor, Jared Barner, has shot 210 deer. Aaron Hall, of Centre County, killed 500 deer, and 6 in one day. Scores of Pennsylvania hunters are living who have killed over a hundred deer.

By sections, the greatest Pennsylvania deer hunters whom history records aught are, according to best authority:

Central Pennsylvania—the great paradise for deer, by the way—Samuel Askey, Centre County; David Robb, Centre County; Daniel Karstetter, Centre County; John D. Decker, Centre County; David A. Zimmerman, Clinton County; Aaron Hall, Centre County; John Q. Dyce, Clinton County; C. F. Herlach, Clinton County; Seth Iredell Nelson, Clinton County; J. P. Hamersley, Clinton County; Peter Frymeyer, Lyeoming County.

Northern Pennsylvania — Jim Jacobs, McKean County; C. W. Dickinson, McKean County; S. J. Pealer, now residing in Columbia County; Reuben Tyrrell and his son, Nelson Tyrrell, Bradford County; Joseph Bastian, Tioga County.

Northeastern Pennsylvania—John Gress, Lackawanna County; E. S. Dolph, Lackawanna County; Stephen Ohmstead, Luzerne County; Eriah Travelpiece, Wayne County; Marcus N. B. Killam, Pike



PETE GOOD

**Resident of Clinton County, and the Leading Afro-American Deer
Hunter in Pennsylvania.**



County; Benjamin F. Killam, Pike County; John Hobday, Pike County; Malloy Miller, Lackawanna County; Elias Scott, Lackawanna County; Chauncey Decker, Lackawanna County; Barney Slocum, Lackawanna County, Hezekiah Leach, Susquehanna County; Joe Fish, Susquehanna County; Dr. R. H. Rose, Susquehanna County; Ebenezer Whipple, Susquehanna County. Hon. M. F. Coolbaugh in an extremely interesting article in the Christmas (1914) number of the Stroudsburg "Times Democrat" mentions a number of famous Monroe County deer hunters of the olden days, among them Hon. William Overfield, Andrew Pipher, Martin Cortright or "Old Rockum," Elijah Depue or "Old Lige," Daniel Miller, Barney Decker, Mont. Gunsaulus, Bob Hanna, John V. Coolbaugh, and his sons Abraham, "Van," and Moses. The last named shot down two deer running in opposite directions without taking his eye from the gun. Overfield and Pipher both killed two deer with one shot.

Northwestern Pennsylvania—Bill Long, of Jefferson and Clearfield Counties; Andy Jackson Long, his son, of Jefferson County; Mike Long, "Bill's" brother, of Elk County; George Smith, Elk County; Hiram Eisenman, Elk County; Nelson Gardner, Elk County.

Southern Pennsylvania—Solomon Hancock, Cumberland County; John P. Swope, Huntingdon Coun-

ty; Phil Wright, Franklin County; David McClure, Huntingdon County; Michael Barriek, Huntingdon County.

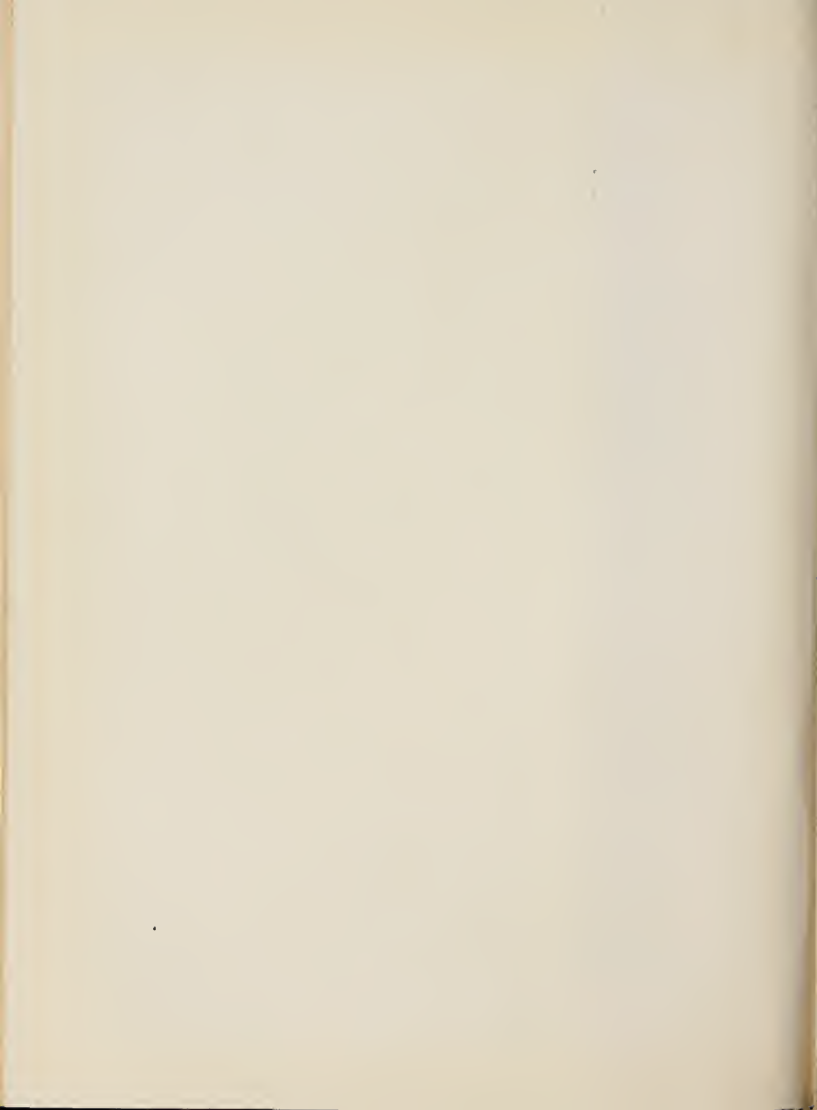
Southwestern Pennsylvania—Tom Fausett, of Fayette County, who died in 1822 at the age of 109 years, slayer of 2000 deer (Fausett is buried two miles west of Ohiopyle Falls, Fayette County). It was he who killed General Braddock, the British commander, at the Battle of the Monongahela on July 9, 1755; Wishart N. Miller, Fayette County; Meshach Browning, of Cumberland, Md., who hunted in Fayette County.

Speaking of Miller, Mr. James Hadden, the popular historian, of Uniontown, Pa., says: "We had a noted deer hunter, a native of this town who died recently, by the name of Wishart N. Miller. He was by far the most successful deer hunter of these parts. A man named Inks died recently in our mountains who was a noted deer and fox hunter. He would pursue his game on hands and knees with his gun in his teeth, and camp on their trail. I have seen him. His history as a hunter is remarkable. There was a book published many years ago entitled "Meshach Browning, or Forty-four Years of the Life of a Hunter," which, if half of it is true, would make him a mighty deer and bear hunter. Browning was lo-



CHAUNCEY CHAAPEL, Wife and Sons

This Family, Residents of Lycoming County are Famed as Slayers of White Deer.



cated, I believe, at what is now Deer Park, Maryland, but hunted quite a good deal in Southern Pennsylvania."

The greatest Indian deer hunters of Pennsylvania of the past hundred years have been: John O'Boyle, better known as Chief Cornplanter, George Silverheels, Shaney John, Johnny Geebuck, Morris Half-town, Isaac Steele, Job Chilloway (the greatest of them all), Tall Chief, Jim Jacobs, Jim Jacobson, the Jimmersons, the Hotbreads, the Lightfoots, the Scroggs, the Shongos, and Old Nicholas—most of them Senecas.

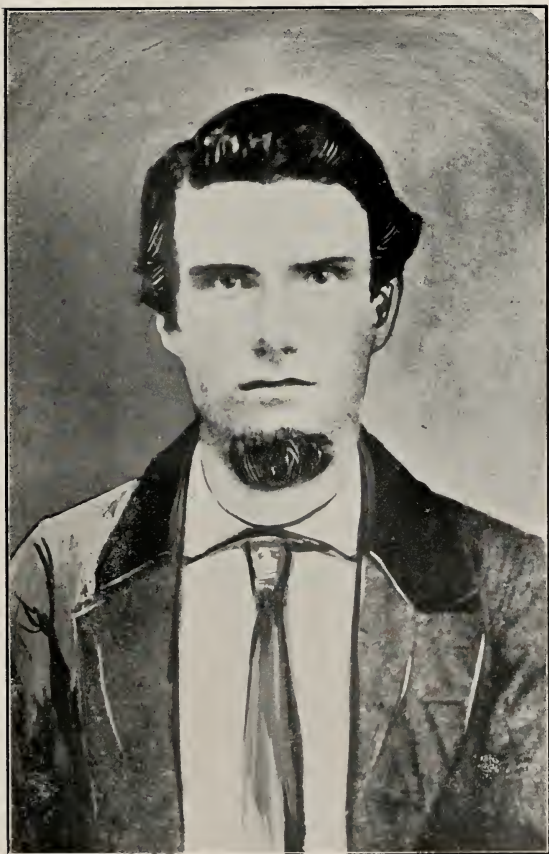
Among the best known colored hunters have been "Black Sam," the trusted body-servant of the benevolent Ario Pardee, the Barnums, "Pete Good," Sam Dunlap, the Johnson boys, and "Prince," who was also one of Monroe County's most popular fiddlers.

For individual heroism, Henry L. Quiggle, of Pine Station, Clinton County, stands well up on the list. One autumn night while in his dugout, gigging for eels in the West Branch, he saw by the light of his pine torch a fine stag driven into the river by hounds. In its efforts to cross to the opposite shore, the frightened animal swam near Mr. Quiggle's boat. With rare courage the gentleman leaped from the boat on to the stag's back. Holding on by the horns with his

left hand, he waited until almost on the beach, when he drew his hunting knife with his right hand and cut the animal's throat. The horns of this stag are in the author's collection. They are a well-colored set, though not large, with three points on one horn, and four on the other. Mr. Quiggle's father, Jacob Quiggle, who died in 1911, in his ninetieth year, was a noted deer hunter in his day. In 1840 he shot the left ear off a stag in Kearns's Gap. In 1866 "Black Headed Bill" Williams, a veteran of one of the Bucktail Regiments, shot and killed the same animal near the mouth of the Kammerdiner Run. When deprived of its ear by Mr. Quiggle this deer was two or three years old. Therefore, at the time of its death it must have been nearly thirty.

John G. Millais, authority on British deer, states there is an old saying that deer live "as old as horses," which is equally applicable to Pennsylvania deer, according to Dr. McKnight, who places the average age attained by deer and horses at twenty years.

Deer hunting in Pennsylvania has been carried on in many ways. The first settlers indulged in bloody animal drives, such as were also the delight of the Boers in Natal and Orange Free State. The pioneers selected a territory eight or ten miles in width, surrounded it, and then gradually closed in on the cen-



JOHN Q. DYCE (1830-1904)
The Famous Clinton County Hunter who Killed Three Deer with
One Shot

ter, killing everything indiscriminately. In a drive held near Upper Mahantongo Creek in 1756, presided over by the Wild Hunter of the Juniata, "Black Jack" Schwartz, driving, it is said, from a radius of thirty miles, 198 deer were slain. A drive held in Bradford County in 1818 resulted in the death of 150 deer.

With the wiping out of most of the big herds, crust-and slaughtering at deer lies came into vogue. As late as 1869, eleven deer became "crusted," or rather sunk up to their necks and rendered helpless, in a snowdrift near the Rock Oak Ridge in Clinton County, and all were butchered by rapacious hunters from Sugar Valley. In Blackman's "History of Susquehanna County" it is stated that deer were hunted in that region by hunters on snowshoes after particularly heavy snowfalls. Natural deer lies were plentiful in most parts of Pennsylvania and the hunters concealed themselves on platforms in the forks of trees or scaffolds built adjacent to the lies. Sometimes candles or a few lighted coals were used to give a better view or to dazzle the eyes of the victims. When the innocent creatures appeared on the scene to enjoy the salt, they were fired on, often three or four being killed in a night by a single gunner.

Jacking, or "fire-hunting," so popular at a later date in the Adirondacks, was practiced in Pennsylvania in many localities. It was longest popular on the Karoondinha, or Penn's Creek, on Tiadaghton or Pine Creek, and for a time on certain lakes in Susquehanna, Pike and Wayne Counties. The method consisted of a pine torch placed on the bow of a dugout or canoe, so arranged that it could be adjusted to flash into different points on the shore. At night the deer would come to the water's edge to feed on lily pads and pickerel weed, or the moss growing under the water, and blinded by the vivid flash of light, would remain motionless, being easily shot. Philip Tomb and his brother Jacob Tomb, killed many deer in this way. Daniel Karstetter, of Coburn, and Isaac Frantz, of near Zerby, were experts in "fire-hunting." There has been no jacking on the Karoondinha in nearly forty years, or since the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad was built. It was a summer sport, as in autumn most of the water plants are too dried to tempt the deer from their fastnesses in the mountains.

Next in popularity and barbarity came the hounding of deer. The hunters sent the voracious canines into the forests to start the deer from their hiding places among the ferns and laurel. The terrified creatures would start on a run, usually heading for



Group of Old-Time Deer Hunters of Northern Pennsylvania, and their Ladies,
(Nelson Tyrrell at extreme right, seated)



some stream or river. Stationed near these waterways the hunters would shoot them down as they found their supposed sanctuary. Hounding is now forbidden by law. Dogs which hound deer still exist in the mountains in vast numbers and are the worst menace to the deer of Pennsylvania; practically all the backwoodsmen's and shack-dwellers' hounds and cur-dogs are allowed at large to forage for themselves. They often get on the trail of deer, particularly fawns and run them until they drop from exhaustion. Sometimes they take a few bites from the carcass, and then the mountaineers blame the deer's death on "wild-cats" and demand a larger bounty. In reality, wild-cats are the best friends of the perpetuation of the deer family in its highest physical form. All hunting dogs should be kept tied up or in enclosures, unless out with their owners.

"Yarding" deer was formerly practiced in this State. Enclosures were built with high fences and planted with wheat. As they were oftenest located on hillsides, the deer would jump in, but could not easily get out. While thus captive they were shot by the hunters.

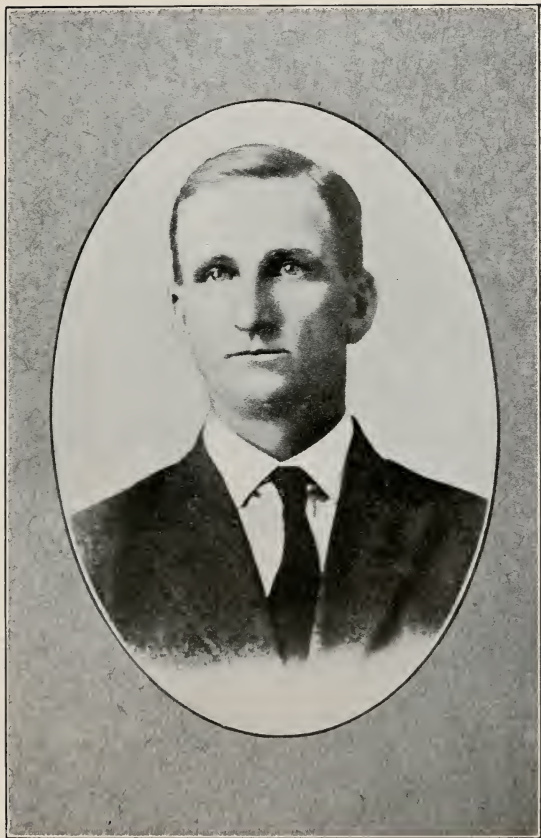
Driving deer is now the most popular form of the sport in the Keystone State. Bands of hunters enter the wilderness, where they separate, some going to

start up the deer from their brakes, while the rest post themselves along the favorite "runways" or paths of the deer. The startled animals run along their best known trails where they are met and shot by the hunters.

Those who hunt deer in private "parks" (enclosures) cannot justly be called *sportsmen*. Yet this class of hunting will be in existence long after deer in a wild state have been exterminated in Pennsylvania. They are the "hunters of tomorrow."

Stalking, such as is practiced in Scotland, Ireland and on the Continent, is by far the fairest and most sportsmanlike manner of hunting deer. Unfortunately, it has been practiced by few Pennsylvania hunters. Those who hunt that way constitute the "honor roll" of our deer hunters. If all hunted that way fewer deer would be shot, as it takes fully a hundred per cent. more skill than any other way of hunting. The idea is to enter the haunts of the deer "off the wind" and approach close without being seen by them, and then bring down the finest stag with a well directed bullet.

Among Pennsylvania deer hunters who have "stalked" the noble stag may be mentioned Elias Scott, Lackawanna County; Marcus N. B. Killam and B. F. Killam, Pike County; John Q. Dyce, William



WILLIAM ANNEMAN, Scranton, Pa.
State Game Protector, and for years one of the Leading Deer Hunters
of Northeastern Pennsylvania



J. Emert, Clinton County; Prof. James M. Black, Lycoming County; Jesse Hughes, Lycoming County; S. J. Pealer, Columbia County; Will Lucas, Centre County; Hon. C. K. Sober, Union County; Benjamin Hostrander, Lycoming County; E. N. Woodecock, Potter County; C. W. Dickinson, McKean County; W. N. Miller, Fayette County; John Phillips, Lycoming County; Thomas G. Simcox, Andy Wilson, Clinton County; C. E. Logue, Cameron County; Phil Wright, Franklin County, William T. Smith, Clinton County, and many others.

It is said to be easiest to stalk deer during the rutting season, as the stags are aflame with passion and oblivious to danger. During this period the necks of the bucks are much swollen and they present a masculine appearance which comes out well on mounted heads. A castrated stag will never lose his horns, but his full neck vanishes, and he resembles a doe except for the antlers. A park stag so treated in Clinton County became very docile, but after the second year his horns became brittle and clipped away like chalk. When he was killed five years after the operation he had little left but the stumps of his former magnificent horns. B. F. Killam says: "My father shot a castrated stag in the Pike County wilds many years ago. Its horns were very much worn, so much so that

he was convinced that they had been on the animal for a long time." In the old days many Pennsylvania deer were castrated by wolves.

Deer are said to attack men during the rutting season, but it is to be doubted if they do unless wounded. A wounded stag near Tylersville, Clinton County, some years ago attacked a hunter who attempted to end its misery with an axe, disemboweling the nimrod with the sharp tips of his forefeet. The old superstition of poisoned hoofs and horns held good in this instance, as the nimrod died not long afterwards of blood-poisoning. Often locked antlers are found in the Pennsylvania wilds, showing where the stags have become entangled and perished. There was hardly one of the older hunters that failed to find such tragic mementos. Audubon and Bachman in their "Quadrupeds of North America" recount once seeing three sets of stag horns interlocked together.

White and even perfectly black deer have been shot in the mountains of Pennsylvania. White Deer Valley, Union County, boasted that a half dozen pure white deer were killed within its boundaries. A white deer, a spike-buck, was killed in Lycoming County in 1903, and three were killed in Clinton and Lycoming Counties in 1906. Another was killed in Lycoming County in 1904. The Chaapel family made a special-



Handsome White Deer, Killed near Warrensville, Lycoming County, Nov. 11, 1903
(Mounted by C. H. Eldon)



ty of hunting white deer in Lycoming County, with considerable success. Judge Caton relates that many years ago he saw a white deer, a good-sized buck, in the Philadelphia Zoo. Piebald deer have occasionally been killed. Some hold that albinism is a sign of deterioration, but no white deer was ever seen in an enclosed Deer Park in the State where the deer are constantly deteriorating. An albino doe was run to death by dogs on the mountain, near Trout Run, Lycoming County, a short time ago. Another white doe was seen recently near Calvert in the same county. There are more white deer in Lycoming County than in any other section of the State.

It is related that in England, in the Forest of Dean, on the authority of no less a personage than Charles Darwin, native fallow deer never crossed in a single instance with fallow deer imported by King James I. Yet they lived side by side for centuries. In Otzinsachson Park, in Clinton County, the leading deer preserve in Pennsylvania, where several thousand acres are fenced in, "Big Deer" and "Little Deer" mix indiscriminately with Kansas, Michigan and other types of deer introduced by the owners from time to time. The result is rapidly increasing barrenness among the hinds, inability to stand continued bad weather, laziness and dependence on feeding by the

keepers among the fawns, and decrease in the circumference, number of points, and length of the horns among the stags. No spotted or white deer was ever seen in the midst of these sadly fallen "sylvan monarchs."

Speaking of hinds, there is a very interesting paragraph on "The Doe and Her Fawn" in Dr. McKnight's "Pioneer Notes of Jefferson County," which is worthy of repetition. It runs as follows:

"Fawns when first dropped are for some hours unable to stand. The doe does not remain beside them, but paces slowly around at a considerable distance. Every now and then she gives a tremulous, bleating call, at sound of which the fawn lifts its head and tries to struggle to its feet. Should a man or dog appear meantime the doe runs away in a straight line, but laggingly and halting, as though herself hurt unto death. When she thinks she has lured the enemy far enough away, she gives three great flying leaps, which take her at once out of sight, and goes back to her baby. But if left undisturbed she keeps up the pacing until she sees the fawn standing; then paces daintily away in a straight line, choosing always the easiest grade. As she paces she calls faintly, and every now and then halts, looking over her shoulder to see if she is followed."



Hon. C. K. SOBER, Lewisburg
State Game Commissioner and a Leading Deer Hunter of Central
Pennsylvania



And now comes the question of how best to preserve deer and deer hunting for future years in Pennsylvania. Deer hunting cannot be called "sport" if it is to end in the extermination of the animals. Philip Tomb has aptly said: "With a true hunter it is not the destruction of life which affords the pleasure of the chase." Other States are trying to solve these problems, but the underlying reasons are usually left unnoticed by the lawmakers and sportsmen's associations.

In the first place, let it be said frankly that deer hunting, as practiced in the Keystone State, is not cruel. Death results to the stag, but he dies bravely, like a soldier in battle, shot through. What human being would not prefer a glorious death for his country on the field of battle to dying in bed of a lingering illness from some hideous disease. To best conserve deer the present game laws of Pennsylvania need only a few amendments and revisions.

It is right and just that only male deer with horns be killed. They are the warriors of the deer tribe, the only ones that can be spared. The date of the opening of the deer season should be postponed until the rutting season is entirely over. One stag to a hunter is right and just. A season of 14 hunting days will not wipe out the deer of Pennsylvania. The use

of automatic or "pump" gun should be forbidden under heavy penalties. No dogs should be allowed at large. Patches of *Forest Cover*, namely big trees, laurel, fern and all the primeval forms of undergrowth, the natural *habitat* of the deer should be left standing in all parts of the hunting country.

There should be a permanent closed season placed on all the so-called predatory beasts and birds; wolves, if they come back—and one was seen this deer season near Mackeyville, Clinton County—catamounts (*lynx canadensis*), wild-cats (*lynx rufus*), foxes, eagles, and so on. These creatures prey on sick and weakly deer and fawns. They have not the capacity to destroy others. They prevent deterioration and pestilences. They keep the healthy ones alert and virile. There can be no staggish, stupid deer where there are predatory creatures. They keep the deer *game animals*, worthy to pit one's skill against, in every sense of the word. The trapping of predatory animals in Otzinaehson Park was another cause of the rapid deterioration of deer there. In Scotland and in the Alps the deer, despite artificial feeding and strict "game laws" have decreased in size with the destruction of wolves, or bears, and lynxes.

The importation of Western deer should cease. It makes a mongrel breed. Better the "Little Deer" at



W. H. SCHWENK, Clinton County
Deer Hunter with a typical present day head, Killed at Green's Gap, 1914



all times than big, unhealthy "weeds," with poor heads, and lacking in swiftmess and resistance. The Little Deer will stay with us—they know our conditions—if their breed can be kept pure. And here let a recent paragraph entitled "Two Hundred Pound Bucks," from the "Keystone Gazette," of Bellefonte, Pa., be quoted. It will help establish the true average size of *Odocoileus virginianus*.

"If the reports in our daily papers can be relied upon, deer are heavier this year than ever before, as about every other one that is killed 'weighs over 200 pounds'; when the fact is that only about one out of fifty deer killed in these mountains weighs over 200 pounds. The excessive weight depends much on the distance you carry the animal from the slaughter to the camp. We have actually known deer to increase in weight from 140 pounds to 260 in a ten-mile lug, and held their weight until they were put on the scales.

"It is therefore not uncommon for hunters to 'stretch the tape' as scales and mariners' compasses often go crazy in the woods."

Hunters as a rule are born and not made, but C. F. Herlacher tells of an old Indian named Shaney John who lived on the banks of the Juniata. The first settlers would have driven him away, only he promised

if they would let him remain he would teach their sons how to hunt Indian style. He became a popular institution in the Township where he resided, and many of the greatest deerslayers in the Juniata country owed their skill to his tuition. He died over a hundred years ago.

Deer show great vitality when shot, and this year it is recorded that a stag deer shot by Captain William Lessig, in Buchanan Valley, Adams County, ran 100 yards after a bullet had pierced his heart. A wounded and very badly frightened stag this season charged a young hunter named Lloyd Boone (of the same family as the immortal Daniel), in the mountains adjacent to Sugar Valley in Clinton County, knocked the loaded rifle from his hand, trampled the nimrod badly, and escaped into the dense forest. Later this stag was located in a dying condition on a ridge five miles away. Judge Caton says "when a Virginia Deer is wounded he almost invariably drops his tail and runs with it pendant. S. J. Pealer gives an instance of a tame doe owned by a Mr. Samuel Creveling which hid in a shed at the approach of bad weather and acted as a barometer for her owner.

It is considered good luck by the Pennsylvania mountaineers to encounter a stag while on a journey. The French have a proverb: "Qui rencontre un cerf.



C. F. HERLACHER, Loganton, Clinton County
The Greatest Living Pennsylvania Deer Hunter of the
Younger Generation



un loup, ou un ours, e'est tresbon signe." In Pennsylvania it was considered very bad luck to look at a dying stag. This tradition was also current in England, France and Germany. Speaking of luck, it is related that William Goodlander, the oldest member of the White Deer Township Hunting Club, who was born Nov. 13, 1844, killed his 13th deer on Nov. 13th, 1914, a strange combination of 13's and 4's! A true lover of nature is stimulated by deer hunting. William J. Emert, after a recent successful hunt in Otzinsachson Park, quoted the following beautiful lines from "The Aged Bard's Wish" in Stuart's "Lays of the Deer Forest," in a letter to the writer:

"I see the ridge of hinds, the steep of the sloping
glen,

The wood of cuckoos at its foot,
The blue height of a thousand pines,
Of wolves, and roes, and elks."

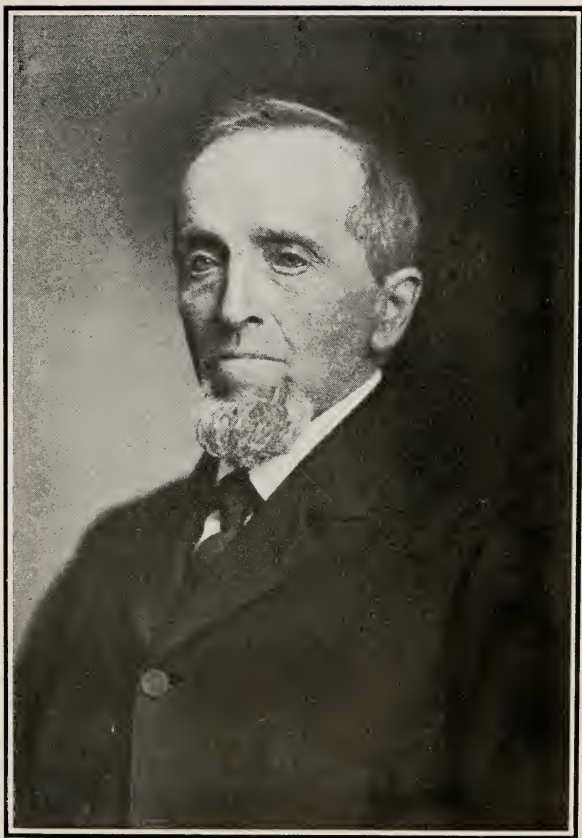
Stephen Olmstead, one of the greatest hunters of Luzerne County, in commenting on the status of deer in northeastern Pennsylvania, says:

"Your favor of the 11th at hand; in regard to your inquiry, I am inclined to believe deer vary in size in different localities. I saw a track of one buck in Lycoming County, at the head of Pine Creek, on the burnt ground; it was killed a few days later. The

station agent at Jersey Shore told me it tipped the scales there at 300 pounds. It had 13 prongs. I killed a buck near Grove Neck Pond, Monroe County, weight 238 pounds, with 9 prongs; killed a buck on Pocono Mountain, weight 228 pounds, straight horns, no prongs.

"I killed a buck on Green Hill, in Laekawanna County, which weighed 236 pounds, and it had 7 points. I have killed several from 180 to 200 pounds. I found part of a horn on Shiny Mountain, Luzerne County, that measured 9 inches around it close to the head. We have in Pennsylvania but few native or "Northern" deer. Our forests have been overrun, especially in Pike and Sullivan Counties with the Virginian deer which are smaller and lighter in color. I think the horns vary in size according to the size of the deer but not always for I have killed large deer with very small horns. This is rare though."

The horn with 9 inch circumference was probably grown on a deer which met with some injury while the antlers were in the velvet. Millais mentions several such instances where monstrosities resulted. C. H. Eldon says: "The abnormal growth of horns is caused by the 'velvet' being punctured. The bone process then grows out of the punctured places, thus forming new points."



CAPTAIN JOHN D. DECKER, of Decker Valley, Centre County
Slayer of the Last Native Wild Elk in Pennsylvania, September 1, 1877



C. W. Dickinson, of McKean County, whose name will live in Pennsylvania deer hunting annals, recently expressed these interesting views to the writer:

“The largest stag I ever killed weighed when ‘dressed’ 205 pounds, the next 203 pounds, and the third 200½ pounds. It would be a fine stag that would weigh 175 pounds dressed. I have lived all my life in what used to be the best deer country in Pennsylvania, and in my day have seen the heads of over 2000 stags. Among them I have seen a few “freak” heads. I once saw a head with four prongs on the right horn and only one point on the left. About an inch and a half above the single prong the horn flattened out and grew straight up and in the widest places it was about four inches wide, and not over one-fourth of an inch thick. This flat portion was about nine or ten inches long, while the back edge was corrugated like the edge of a moose horn. A hunter whom I knew well, the late W. H. Horner, told me that he killed a stag in Northern Wisconsin in 1892 that had three horns. Two grew in the natural places, while the third grew out of the frontal part of the skull about an inch and a half forward of the base of the right horn, and about one inch nearer the center of his face. I think that this horn only had two prongs on it. The largest pair of deer horns I ever

saw were on a stag killed by my father in Norwich Township, this county, in 1866. The horns at the points of the main beam of horn were $24\frac{1}{8}$ inches apart. They were so large, that two big sized men could stand back to back within their curve. Father told me many times that this was the largest pair of deer horns he ever saw. The famous deer hunters of this section can be divided into two classes, those who come into the northern wilderness between 1815 and 1820, and those who appeared later on. In the first class were the Beckwiths, Samuel and Simeon, William Brewer, Jared Robison, Otis Fitch, Daniel and Charles Foster, Mike Magee, Leroy and Harrison Lyman, Charles Jones, Stephen Young, William Lewis and Michael Freeman. In the next generation were Henry and Wheeler Brown, O. S. Burdick, A. P. Brewer, E. H. Dickinson, W. P. Denison, Loren and Eaton Wolcott, Arthur Young, Ben Griswold, and a group from New York State who came to McKean County regularly to hunt, which included George Parker, the father of Col. Noah and Jack Parker. The third generation included W. C. Dickinson, W. W. Brewer, A. C. Goodwin, John Heitman, Philip Hafner, Paul Rhoads and W. H. Horner. The guns used by the early hunters were all single barrel muzzle-loaders. Some of them were the old style flint lock



Daniel Karstetter and Wife. Mr. Karstetter who died at Loganton, Clinton County, in 1907, aged 83 years was the greatest Deer Hunter of his generation in the Seven Mountains



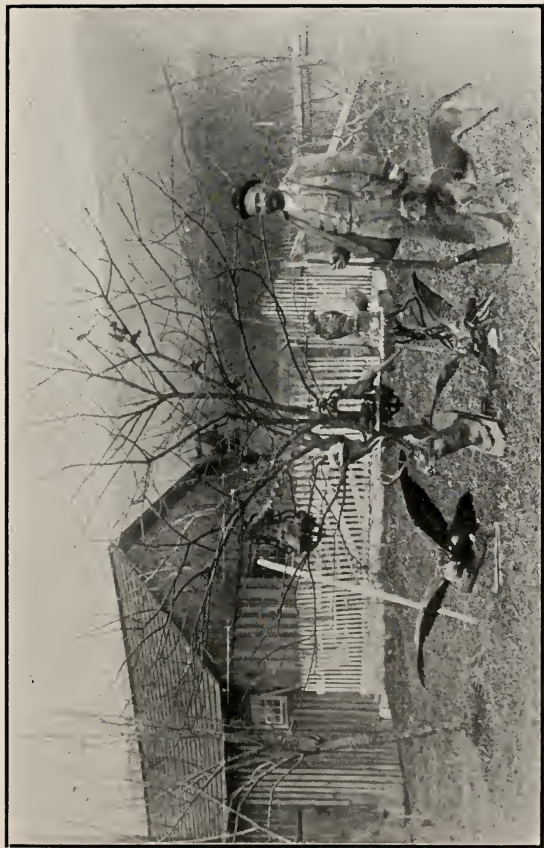
and the balance were pill lock rifles. The calibre of these guns I can only guess at as the molds for running balls were usually marked or numbered by the number of balls in a pound. Some of these guns were called smooth-bore as they were not rifled or creased. These guns were of any old make; there were some of them were called Lancaster Rifles, made at Lancaster, Pa. The barrels of these rifles were from 30 to 36 inches long with a wooden stock that ran from the breech plate to the muzzle of the gun. The old-fashioned guns were expensive, single barreled rifles were worth from \$25 to \$40. The first double barrel rifles were introduced in this section in the early forties. They cost from \$50 to \$60. They were caplocks, using a cap instead of a pill. The next gun introduced was a cylinder gun made by a gunsmith named Billingham in Rochester, New York. This gun was a seven shooter so-called because the cylinder had seven chambers and the hunter could make seven shots if he wished without stopping to re-load. In 1846 my father traded a fine pair of oxen for one of these guns "evenup," and the first three years he used that gun he killed over 200 deer with it.

After the female deer takes the buck it will be seven months before she drops her fawns. The bucking season (or as the hunters say, running season) is

of about seven weeks' duration, beginning the forepart of October and ending about the 15th or 20th of November. During this period the old stags are very ugly to each other. When two of them get into a fight it is a fight to a finish.

Quite often hunters would find a dead stag that had been killed in a fight of this kind. We saw one, a large one too, that had been killed by another stag. From the way the ground was torn up and the way their feet had sunk into the ground as one or the other would shove the other backward, sometimes for a distance of four or five rods, then the tables would change and back the other one would go until one of them had got the chance looked for when he broke from a headhold and thrust the prongs of his horns into his adversary's side, piercing his heart and lungs. It looked as if the conqueror had spent hours in jumping on his fallen foe, for he would go three or four rods away, then run and jump on the dead stag. All of the dead stag's legs were broken and every rib back of the shoulder on the side up was broken, so was the shoulder blade and half the hair on the top side was stamped and kicked off.

When three or four stags get after one doe there is pretty sure to be a "scrap" just the same as if it were three or four bulls after one cow. If two stags



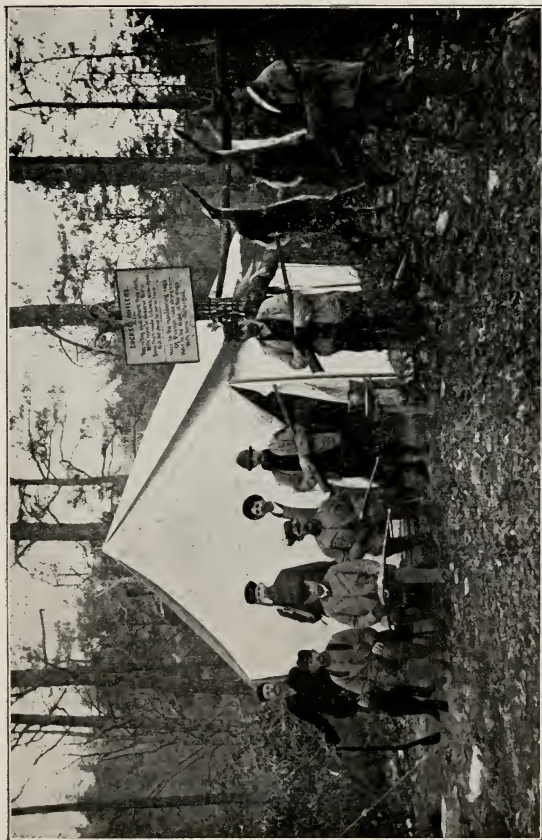
EDGAR AUSTIN SCHWENK, of Clinton County, a Famous Living Pennsylvania Deerslayer



get into a fight over a doe, the doe stands and looks on like a referee. The stags never bellow or roar like a bull. That is reserved for Scotch or Continental stags. If two or more male deer get with a doe, the master stag will dive at the others if they get too close and will sometimes bleat a coarse, quivering bleat coarser than an old ram and twice as loud. We have heard and seen these things so we know what we are writing. The only time any of the old hunters ever heard a stag make an outcry was when he was being chewed by wolves or dogs or sometime if his back was broken above his kidneys or his hips broken, he would bawl like a steer or dying calf. All medium-sized or small deer when shot through the back or hips or when attacked by dogs or wolves will usually bawl like a dying calf. If a deer happens to get out of sight of the ones they are in company with they will make a fine bleating noise like a young lamb but not nearly as loud. These noises can often be heard from deer in zoos or parks. If deer around a deerlick happen to smell a man in the night they will snort as loud as a horse. We have heard them snort thousands of times." C. H. Eldon says: "I received a buck head about two years ago to be mounted in which a piece of antler had entered the left eye and imbedded itself

deep in the head of the deer, and broke off, leaving about one inch sticking out. This piece of horn was about five inches long. It was clear evidence of a forest tragedy."





A Camp Scene in Southern Pennsylvania
(Phil Wright, the Famous Deer Hunter is standing on extreme right)



VII.

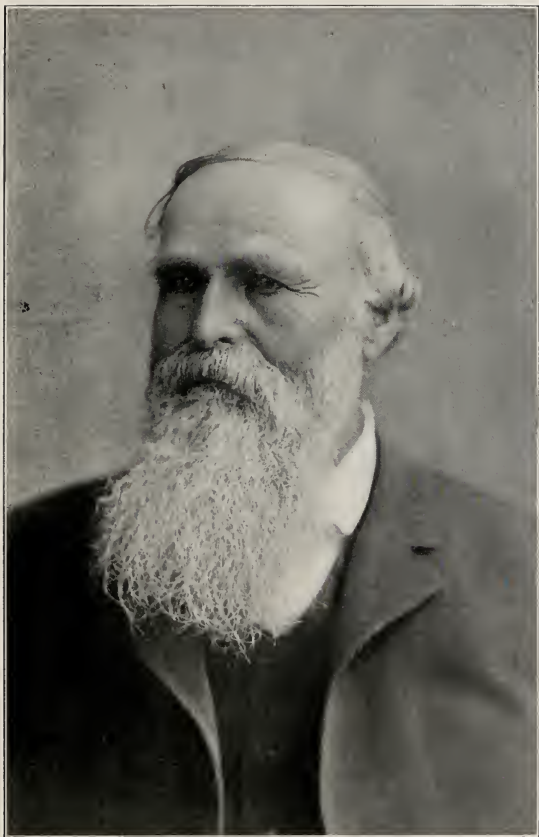
SOME FAMOUS STAGS.



LIKE in the human kingdom, some stags outstrip and outrank their fellows. Like them, some stags earn immortality, are remembered long after they have passed from the terrestrial scene. Pennsylvania has its full quota of famous stags, about which the old hunters love to tell, and tell again. Most famous of these was the White Ghost, a pure white stag of enormous size that ruled the deer of the valley bearing his name—White Deer Valley—for many years. Again and again he was met point blank in the forest by capable hunters, but no bullet could touch him. He seemed to bear a charmed life. At length Shaney John, the celebrated Indian hunter from the Juniata country, he of the hunting school—then a very young man—was prevailed upon to cross the mountains and slay this defiant stag. He lay in wait for it, a poisoned arrow, a slender dart of bone, in his bow. The magnificent stag, white as ghost, emerged from the forest into a cornfield, where he snorted his defiance to the whole race of hunters. Suddenly the arrow sped through the air, while the

stag stood broadside, catching him in the flank. The animal gave a slight start as he felt the prick of the dart, and looked around, as if searching for the insect that had bitten him. Detecting nothing, he stood still and unharmed.

All the while Shaney John was watching him from the corner of the woods. At the end of a couple of minutes his head dropped a little, as if he was sleepy. The hunter stepped out in plain sight. The white stag noticed him, and moved forward, as if to do battle, but with unsteady tread. It was a distance of a hundred yards to where the Indian stood, but the deer evidently determined to reach his foe. As he drew near he lowered his fine head as if to charge, but the splendid crown of royal antlers "wobbled," and when he was within almost a horn's thrust of Shaney John he dropped dead. The Indian left the carcass lay while he walked to a nearby cabin to bring his friends to the scene. When he returned to the spot, accompanied by a score of comrades red and white, he found that the deer had turned coal black in color. When the animal was opened to be cleaned, the flesh proved to be already rancid. The horns crumbled in the hunter's grasp, when he tried to move the body. All present agreed that the White Stag was a "ghspook" or ghost. After that occurrence



Marcus N. B. Killam (1815-1902)
Northeastern Pennsylvania's Greatest Deer Hunter



other white deer were seen in the valley, and it became gradually known by that name. Several white deer were later killed in and about the valley.

At White Deer Lake, Pike County, a famous white stag defied the hunters for a score of years. Finally it was shot with a silver bullet by the Indian hunter, Tahment Swasen, who found the meat "tainted" when he stripped off the hide. It is a persistent superstition among the older generation of Pennsylvanians that the meat of no white deer has ever been eaten except by "Spook men"—that is, materialized ghosts masquerading as humans—and that no white deer's flesh has ever even gotten to market. The White Deer, despite its symmetry and beautiful color, is generally supposed to contain the soul of some person who has committed the crime of incest. In Europe it is considered unlucky to kill a white chamois; death coming to the hunter within twelve months.

Philip Tomb, the mighty hunter, says that he saw two white deer in Pennsylvania in his day. He once saw a "spook" stag, which he shot at thirty times, but could not hit, though it stood on the bank of Tiadaghton, a few feet from his canoe. A jet black stag of huge proportions was seen in the Michigan forests this autumn.

Among noted stags of a later period none was more widely known than "Old Dan," which ruled the wilds of Huntingdon County between the years 1885-1895. C. Lloyd Jones has beautifully described this Forest King in the "Semi-Weekly News," of Huntingdon, Pa., the article in question being herewith reprinted in full. It is as follows:

"Some years ago a party of young ladies and gentlemen while out on Short Mountain, on a beautiful Friday in the month of April when the sun was shining in full glory, and while looking for that most beautiful, fragrant and lasting wild flower, the trailing arbutus, gathering it among the mosses and ferns, they happened to see a large male deer with seven prongs in the velvet, and they looked in astonishment to behold such a beautiful specimen of the deer family so near to them. When they returned home they described this beautiful and stately creature, and an old hunter hearing them speak of its large prongs, its smooth red hide with a stripe along its neck, as pure and white as the fallen snow, and a large scar on its left hind shoulder, said from the description they gave that it was "Old Dan," a name given it in remembrance of an old recluse who lived in these parts many years ago and was a great hunter in his time here in central Pennsylvania. Old Dan was a quiet



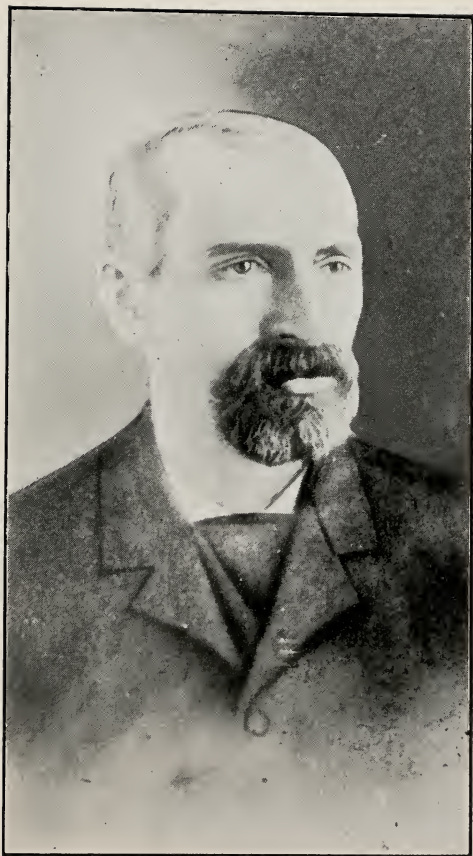
An Exceptionally Good Head from Centre County, 1914



and queer old bachelor, with a cunning and craftiness known only to the hunters of those days. He had told that while yet a young man he was a soldier in the German army, and beyond that he would say nothing more about his life. Because of its cunning and craftiness, they named this beautiful animal after Old Dan. The scar on his left hind shoulder was caused by a party of hunters who went out on Short Mountain to give chase to this wise old fellow, one of the party asserting that he shot him and that the party afterward trailed him by following his tracks among the leaves by the blood he lost, but they gave up the chase when night came. "Old Dan," while yet a young fawn, was seen first by Trapper John P. Swope while he was visiting his traps, and was lost in admiration to behold such a beautiful young animal. He says it was the most beautiful creature of its kind that he ever beheld in the wild state. Trapper Swope said he saw him quite often while out at his traps, but never had the heart to shoot him, as "Old Dan" was too fine a specimen for him to kill. Hunters at different times saw this animal, but he seemed to bear a charmed life for quite a few years. He was seen one summer by some woodsmen, and they said he had a mate and a fawn with him this time and that his mate and fawn were just as pretty as "Old Dan."

A party of hunters were out deer hunting one autumn, and, as usual, they placed three men of the party at three different deer crossings. Everything being quiet and still, one of them began to feel sleepy and put his gun against a tree. While the hunter was leaning on the tree and almost had fallen asleep, he heard a noise back of him on the crossing. He quickly turned his head, and there only a few feet from him stood "Old Dan." He was lost in admiration at the beautiful deer before him, and, as hunters say, he got the buck fever and almost forgot about his gun. When he finally reached for his gun, "Old Dan" saw him move. Up went his tail or "nag," as hunters say, and away he went through the woods. The hunter said he shot at the deer, but is not certain whether he hit him or not. "Old Dan" seemed to know when they were after him, for he was so cunning that he was seldom seen by men with their powerful firearms that do so much destruction to the denizens of the woods and vales, but was seen quite often by others.

At last he was shot by one of a party of hunters who went out to try and bring in this wise old fellow. The hunting party was composed of John Patterson, Isaac Chilcoat, George Piper, David McClure and others. They routed seven deer, and the first and only one they brought home they killed just after



C. W. DICKINSON
One of the Greatest Living Deer Hunters in Northern
Pennsylvania



they routed the seven. Mr. Patterson informed the writer of this sketch that he shot "Old Dan" and badly wounded him, for they followed his trail on the mountain by the blood until dark. As it snowed during the night, they did not go after him, but the cunning old animal was so badly wounded that he left the mountain, coming through Barree and on down through the farms on the Juniata River which he tried to cross near Warrior Ridge, but was drowned. Sometime during the day he was seen and taken out of Cresswell's mill forebay by John Port, now deceased, but at that time track foreman for the Pennsylvania Railroad Company between Barree and Petersburg. Thus ended the career of one of the craftiest animals that ever roamed over central Pennsylvania."

Then there was "Old Goldy," a giant stag with seemingly top-heavy antlers that seemed to lead a charmed life in the wilds of Potter County for fifteen years. He was known by sight, it is said, to every man, woman and child in the Roulette district. He was a light golden bay in summer, a pale orange color in winter. Hence the name "Old Goldy." However, a bold hunter, meeting him full broad side during the season of 1913, laid him low, and the press of Northern Pennsylvania teemed for days with the achieve-

ment. Another giant stag of the Black Forest called "Teddy" because he could not be downed, was eventually killed by Roscoe Woodcock in 1914.

"Old Mosby," named for the elusive Confederate guerilla chieftain of that name, was the most celebrated and spectacular stag in the "Seven Brothers,"—as the Seven Mountains in Centre and Mifflin Counties are locally known—for ten years after the close of the Civil War. He was always leading raids on corn or wheat fields, fighting dogs, and once even attacked a bull. Jacob Pressley and Aaron Hall spent several years of their lives trying to kill him. At length he was brought to earth by Lewis Dorman, the panther slayer, and his antlers were said to have been the largest on any stag ever taken in the Seven Mountains.

"Big Hoof," a stag so-called for a peculiar twisted hoof-mark, escaped the hunters of Bradford county for 20 years until shot by Nelson Tyrrell. This stag had a rack of horns "as big as any elk." The largest deer antlers taken in Susquehanna County in recent years were on a stag known as "The River King," killed by William Hartley in 1867.

The number of famous stags of Pennsylvania is quite large, so the old-timers declared, and we will pass from "helmeted stag" to harts whose claims to



Stag Horns Grown through Fork of White Oak, on which are perched
Raven (left) and Crow, Ultimately Undertakers of Our Deer
(Photo. loaned by Hon. C. K. Sober)



distinction were certain abnormalities of antlers. Dr. Merriam says at one time many stags were killed in the Adirondack Mountains in New York, the slayers of which claimed had smooth long spikes for horns. On close investigation he came to the conclusion that the deer in question were merely overly large yearling stags, and not a new race of deer. Judge Caton states "The *spike bucks* found in the Adirondacks are all yearling bucks with their first antlers." Spike bucks have been frequently killed in the Pennsylvania wilds, more being shot in the Seven Mountains this year than ever before. John H. Chatham, the Clinton County naturalist, says:

"Reuben Kreamer, of Rebersburg, Centre County, killed a buck, the horns of which I saw, that had one perfectly smooth flat horn without any points or prongs to it. The other horn opposite had two prongs growing from the main beam which looked somewhat like it, except having the two prongs."

B. F. Killam, of Paupack, Pike County, states:

"My father, the late Marcus N. B. Killam, who died in 1902, killed a buck with straight horns. It was a very large deer. Its large horns, about 20 inches long, grew up quite straight. There was no branching, except some little knobs close above the coronet."

A very curious deer is described as follows by that authority on Pennsylvania deer, C. F. Herlacher:

"I shot a deer that had three horns. From the shape of his skull I should say that he was crossed with an elk. Two of the horns were regularly placed, but branching backwards, each with three points. Growing out of the base of the skull close to one of the coronets was a third horn, a smooth spike, 12 inches in length, growing forward like a brow tine on a caribou. This animal, which I killed in my early hunting days in Clearfield County, weighed, dressed, 235 pounds."

John Q. Dyce used to relate how he killed what he thought was a large spike buck on the Spring Run Ridge in Clinton County, but when he started to dress it he found it to be a doe. Apart from the horns, it was of the female sex in every respect. This occurred about 1858. Dr. Merriam mentions several occurrences of this kind as happening in the Adirondacks, and Millais speaks of like instances in Scotland. Mr. Dyce, in 1856, killed a stag on Kearns' Run, in Clinton County, which had its antlers in the velvet in *October*.

Those freaks are held by some scientists to indicate deterioration, and this was especially insisted upon by the hunters of the Adirondacks who killed the so-called "spike bucks." But these were "sports" like



A Near View of the Famous Strohecker Head (26 points)



the white deer, rather than evidences of degeneration, as they were found as frequently in "Indian days" as in the modern periods. Finding such natural curiosities only adds another thrill to the superb sport. It makes it many-sided, with surprises apt to happen when least expected. "Old Goldy" and "Old Mosby" had several younger stags as guardians, which may have accounted in part for their long survival against great odds.

It is related that Lewis Dorman first proceeded to "pick off" his quarry's three "fags," and before the wily hart could train others he fell a victim to this latter-day Davy Crockett. "Old Mosby's" horns were very wide apart, being 24 inches at the widest point, it is said. For many years they hung over the door to Dorman's hunting cabin in the wilds of New Lancaster.

A huge stag with one horn was well-known in the Blue Mountains in Lebanon and Berks Counties for a dozen years. This animal seemed to bear a charmed life, until one day he stood on his hind feet to eat some shoots on an oak tree, when his horn became caught between two branches of the tree, and he found himself a captive. There he remained until Thomas Ney, a noted hunter in his day—he died in 1904 in his 86th year—came upon him. It is related that the

magnanimous hunter freed the shackled stag with his hunting axe, let him run seventy-five yards, and then shot him through the heart. This one-horned stag begat his kind, as one-horned deer were killed in the Blue Mountains for years afterward. Perhaps in this case the cause was some deterioration of the species. But the one-horned stags were not wanting in courage. A one-horned stag was killed near Wetham, Clinton County, in deer season 1912, by some hunters from York County.

Although not dealing with a stag, the following anecdote, sent to the writer by Mr. Chatham, may be of interest:

“Some years ago while John Simecox and my uncle, the late Hude Chatham, were out hunting in the Bald Eagle Mountains, near McElhattan, they found a doe that had slipped with one front leg into the rocks and caught her foot in a crevice in an angular seam, from which she could not extract it, and after eating all the grass, weeds, moss, etc., around as far as she could reach, starved to death. Mr. Simecox, who was fond of quoting the Psalms, exclaimed that he was glad ‘his feet were not like hinds’ feet.’ I do not recall a more peculiar accident befalling a wild deer.” In fact, this anecdote is only exceeded by Thomas Ney’s adventure with the one-horned stag of the Blue Moun-



Horns with a decided upward Growth, a rare type of Pennsylvania Deer
(Killed in Centre County, by W. D. Healey, 1914)



tains. Mr. S. N. Rhoads recently bought a set of deer horns in a curio shop in Philadelphia. From their size and general characteristics, they were probably killed on the Pocono plateau nearly a century ago. Their new owner describes them as follows:

“Your letter of November 28th is by me and I am obliged to you for the measurements of your deer horns from Pennsylvania. Following the designations in your letter, I now give you measurements of my set of horns. Length from base of coronet to top of horn on outside curve, $25\frac{1}{2}$ inches; widest (equal greatest horizontal extent), $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches; tip to tip (between ends of forward tines), 9 inches; circumference (of horn beam) above brow line, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches; $5\frac{1}{2}$ points on right antler and 6 points on left antler.

This set is unusually symmetrical and broadly curved, laterally, exceeding your set by $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches. I might add that the greatest length of the long upper tine on the right side measured from the anterior base is $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches, which I think is unusual.”

A stag with horns of unusual size figured in the prints during this present season. Old hunters declare that it must have been an almost full blooded Big Deer. It was killed in a very unique manner, in a veritable paper chase. Miss Anna Struble, of Fields, Lycoming County, on her way to the schoolhouse

where she was teaching, noticed the mammoth deer grazing in an abandoned pasture along the road. The stag saw the girl, but paid little heed to her. The teacher watched the animal for a short time and then started back to her home to summon hunters. She met several of her pupils on the way and sent them back while she returned to follow the stag. She made a trail for the nimrods by scattering bits of torn paper, as she followed the animal through the fields to the forest. The hunters quickly followed the line of paper bits, and soon overtook the girl and the deer. The teacher's brother killed the stag, which had horns 25 inches in length, but of small circumference, they being but $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches above the brow point. It is reported that the lucky hunters will have the antlers mounted on a polished oaken shield and hung above the teacher's desk in the little schoolhouse at Fields.

This autumn a fine stag walked into a schoolroom in Blooming Grove Township near Port Jervis, New York, while the school was in session, and refused to leave until Miss Josephine Conley, the teacher, grabbed the animal by the horns and after considerable pulling led him out of the door. An entire chapter could be written about women as deer hunters in Pennsylvania. Diana was outdone by these fair devotees of the chase in our Commonwealth. During the



Stephen Olmstead, Luzerne County, One of the Greatest Deer Hunters in
Northeastern Pennsylvania

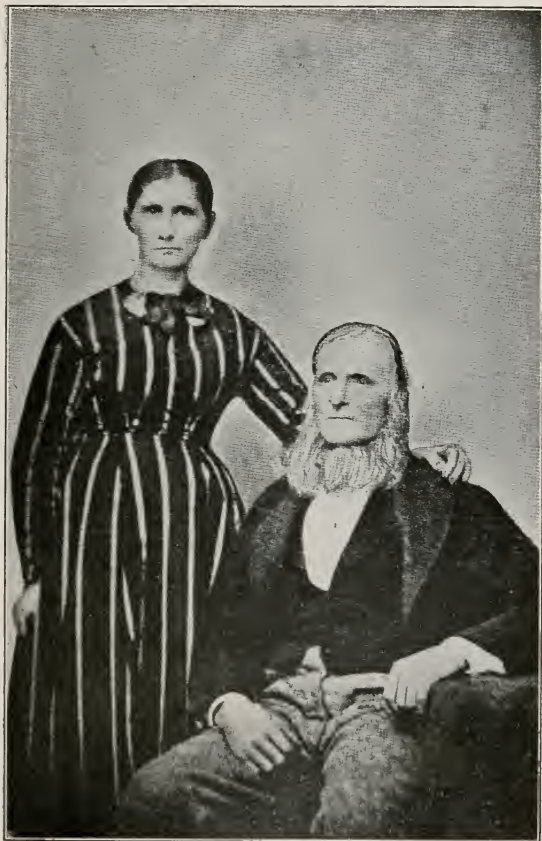


present season two girls, less than twenty years of age, killed a stag in Indiana County. Perhaps the most famous huntress of Central Pennsylvania in the old days was Dorcas, the sprightly wife of James Stackpole, and daughter of Thomas Holt, of Lewistown. One of her descendants, George F. Stackpole, the noted editor, of Lewistown, has this to say concerning the remarkable woman:

“James Stackpole came to what is now McVeytown previous to 1789, his ancestors coming from Ireland and landing in New Hampshire in 1680, the father of James Stackpole, whose name was also James, being located at Carlisle previous to 1750. The father crossed the mountain to the Tuscarora Valley about 1775 and the son to the Juniata Valley, as we say above, previous to 1789, but the exact date we do not have. He came enamored of Dorcas Holt and married her when she was eighteen years of age and they kept hotel along the present old pike a short distance below McVeytown, where he died and is buried along the canal bank where he lived. Dorcas, his wife, was of a very vivacious nature. She could fiddle like a man and could dance with the best, and with it all, including her hotel experience, which she continued to run after the death of her husband, was a good Presbyterian. She loved parties and believed in having a

good time and stopped for nothing when there was fun ahead. She lived to a good old age, and as illustration of the love she had for parties we will state that upon a certain occasion in her old age when she was ill a friend inquired of her son James how she was. He answered the question as to her probable recovery by irreverently answering: "Oh, if it was a good supper she was going to mother would have been off long ago." It was not meant for unkindness, but as a joke owing to her love of the sociabilities of her time.

It is related of her that upon a certain occasion she saw a deer crossing the river near her hotel, raced into the river by some hunters. She ran to the water and caught the deer by the horns just as it was emerging from the water, and, after a hard struggle, succeeded in drowning it. As the combat was going on the hunters reached the opposite shore of the river and seeing what was going on they called to her: 'Go it, Dorkey,' and she did 'Go it' until she had the deer into venison, which she could probably do, as she was a very large woman and thought nothing of jumping into the pig-pen and killing a hog."



Nelson Gardner and Wife. Mr. Gardner who died in Elk County in 1890, aged 74 years, was one of the Greatest Deer Hunters in Northwestern Pennsylvania.

(Photo. courtesy of Dr. W. J. McKnight, Brookville, Pa.)



VIII.

DEER HORNS.



WITHOUT doubt the Northern stag killed by Samuel Strohecker, in High Valley, in the Seven Brothers, in 1896, was the most magnificent antlered specimen of the Pennsylvania deer ever seen by the writer of these pages. Of smaller dimensions than some Maine or Adirondack deer, and perhaps exceeded in these respects by several "freak" Pennsylvania heads, it made up in symmetry and color what it may have lacked in numbers of points and inches. But it must be stated it is only exceeded in number of points by the celebrated "Cameron County" head and has three more than the "Hastings" head. The so-called Cameron County head, huge, but irregular, has 28 points, while the head killed in Centre County and sent as a gift to the late Governor Daniel H. Hastings, has 23 points.

It may or may not be fortunate for the writer that he had the presence of mind to measure the Strohecker head when he first saw it at the genial nimrod's cozy home in Rebersburg in August, 1898, for it was the

thought of that head which caused the preparation of this book. He was in that quaint little village with his good friend, Rev. W. W. Sholl, now of Duncannon, on the way back from his initial visit to Penn's Cave. It was in those glorious days when there was much more original timber on the mountains of Penn's and Brush Valleys than now, when almost every farmer in Penn's Valley had his patch of original pine in the corner of one of his fields. when there were still a few black wolves in the Seven Mountains, and wild pigeons were occasionally seen. In those days the writer was unaware of Rowland Ward's rules for measuring horns, and took the *length* of the horn from the root instead of from the bottom of the edge of the coronet. And here it may be well to quote Colonel Millais on this subject: "In England I find that all sportsmen when measuring the length of a head include the coronet, the tape being taken from the bottom of the edge of the coronet up to the dip of the horn and following the outside curve in the usual way, and Mr. Rowland Ward (in his Records of Big Game) does the same."

In all events, measured *from the skull* to the tip of the horn, the length of the longest horn on the Strohecker head was 31 inches. It was 21 inches at its widest point, 16 inches from tip to tip; the circumfer-



B. F. KILLAM, of Paupack, Pike County
Famed Among Deer Hunters of Northeastern Pennsylvania

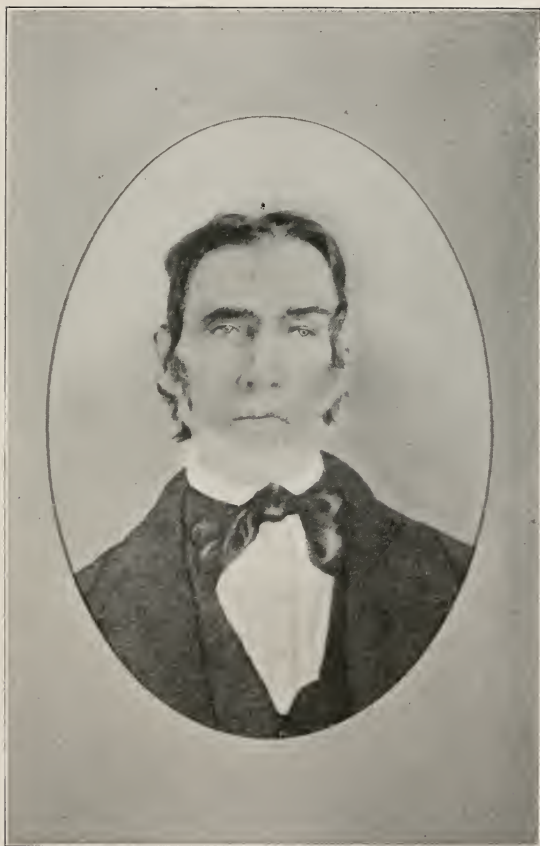


ence taken above the brow point was $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. There were 15 points on the right horn, 11 on the left. John Q. Dyce used to say: "You will always find more points on the left horn than the right on an irregular head," but here is a notable exception. The sweep of the horns was graceful in the extreme, they were still not topheavy, and the excess points on the right horn were not large and did not detract from the harmonious effect of the whole. The antlers were of a rich chestnut brown in color, ivory at the tips, and very sharp. The beading was uniform, and the head singularly free from "excessences" or rudimentary points.

Of course the writer, boylike, wanted to own the noble head. Strohecker was modest in his valuation, offering it for \$15. This seemed remarkably reasonable, as the taxidermist, the great Eldon, had done his work well. The expression of the head was most strikingly lifelike. The writer, being at that time a prospective Sophomore in college, had to "write home" for the money to make the purchase. By the time his indulgent parents, who never refused him anything, forwarded the check other fancies had arisen, and the money was spent elsewhere. Years passed, other scenes and other interests sometimes wavered the writer's fealty to the sport of the chase,

during which time many deer heads were seen, and quite a few measured. But no Pennsylvania head, old or recent, had quite the same beauty as the mental image of the Strohecker stag.

In the autumn of 1913, when the idea of compiling these pages was crystallizing, he asked his friend, John H. Chatham, who was going on a visiting trip to relatives in the Valleys, if he would execute two commissions for him in old Rebersburg. One was to purchase the Strohecker head, if it was to be had; the other was to locate a pair of elk horns which were said to have hung above the entrance to the village tavern years ago. The old people of Rebersburg assured Mr. Chatham that the elk horns belonged to a western wapiti, shipped in about 1865, but there was a worse report with regard to the Strohecker deer head. It was nowhere to be found! "Sam" Strohecker had died "years before," as his widow said, and she had married again. At the vendue after his death, the head was sold "to some stranger," and that was all that could be learned. The kindly old lady led her visitor out of the rear door to an arbor in the back yard. On it was nailed the ant-riddled horns of a stag, with six points on each horn. "That's the only trophy we have left of poor Sam's hunting days," she said. "You are welcome to it if you wish,



REUBEN TYRRELL
Pioneer Deer Hunter of Northern Pennsylvania



but it can't hold a candle to the *big head* which we sold."

And now, perhaps, some reader of these pages will know who owns the "Strohecker head" at present; a hotel man in Tyrone is said to have had it for a time, and give it in fact or memory a better degree of appreciation. It ought to be in the Natural History Museum recently started by Dr. Kalbfus at Harrisburg. For general quality and beauty the writer places it first among Pennsylvania deer heads taken at any time. There may be finer heads, but that is just what the writer would like to know. If their dimensions and photographs are sent to him, and he is convinced, then the purpose of this book has been accomplished.

Sam Strohecker's brother, W. H. H. Strohecker, now living at Milton, Pa., and a noted hunter, also "brought down" several notable stags in his day.

It is said that an English stag once killed had 66 points on his antlers, and the same number were on a "record" Austrian head. A freak white-tailed deer, probably killed in Texas and mentioned by Dr. W. T. Hornaday in his "American Natural History," had 78 points. A deer killed in the "Elk Forest" in the Pocono mountains in 1843, had 55 points to his horns. Like with most "freaks," the hunters who took part in the killing claimed that it was "part elk." Per-

haps there were the elk-deer hybrids in Pennsylvania, the old hunters talked so much about them! Most very big heads taken in Pennsylvania are not symmetrical. The writer has a typical "Big Deer" head, killed on Fish Dam Run, Clinton County, by his great-uncle, the late Major William H. Mayer, in 1885. The length of the horn is only 21 inches, and there are 5 points on the left horn, and 4 on the right, but it is a splendid looking even head, and one worthy to grace the walls of a library than a larger, but more irregular head.

It can be assumed that a "Big Deer's" head reached the following proportions under ideal conditions: Length, 29 inches; greatest width, 22 inches; tip to tip, 17 inches; circumference, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with 6 to 7 points on each horn. With the "Little Deer," now *the* deer of Pennsylvania, it can be taken as: Length, $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches; widest, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches; tip to tip, 10 inches; circumference, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches; points not more than 4 on each horn. And this would be the maximum for *Odocoileus virginianus*. The "mixed Breed" deer are liable to have large antlers according to the preponderance of "Big Deer" blood. As stated previously no measurements of imported deer or their horns will be given in these pages. It is a great pity that they were ever brought into Pennsylvania.



Deer Head with 28 Points. Killed in Cameron County, Pa., in 1910
by W. P. Rhines.
(Mounted by Charles H. Eldon)



Among the older generation of hunters in Pennsylvania, a type of deer called the "Blue Horn" was well known. Its horns were a violet or blue in color, and the animal itself in winter grew a coat that was more blue than dark gray. J. Herbert Walker, the young editor-naturalist, of Lewisburg, in a recent letter to the writer says: "A young man, Mr. Lloyd Guyer, brought to our office last week a fine deer head, a four pronged buck. He stated that the deer was a rare one and called it a 'Blue Horn.' Perhaps you can enlighten me on the subject?" The only specimen of this type which the writer has seen was unquestionably a "Little Deer," from its contour and shape of antlers, but whether pure stock or mixed with the "Blue Horn" variety, it would be impossible to state. Most probably the *blue horn* is a local variation of the true *Odocoileus virginianus*.

W. D. Healey in 1914, killed a stag in Centre County with up-pointed horns, much like those of an English red deer. Deer with this type of horns have been killed occasionally in Pennsylvania, and are evidently a throw-back to the ancient type of horn formation. These horns are more pronounced than even those of the California type of Mule Deer.

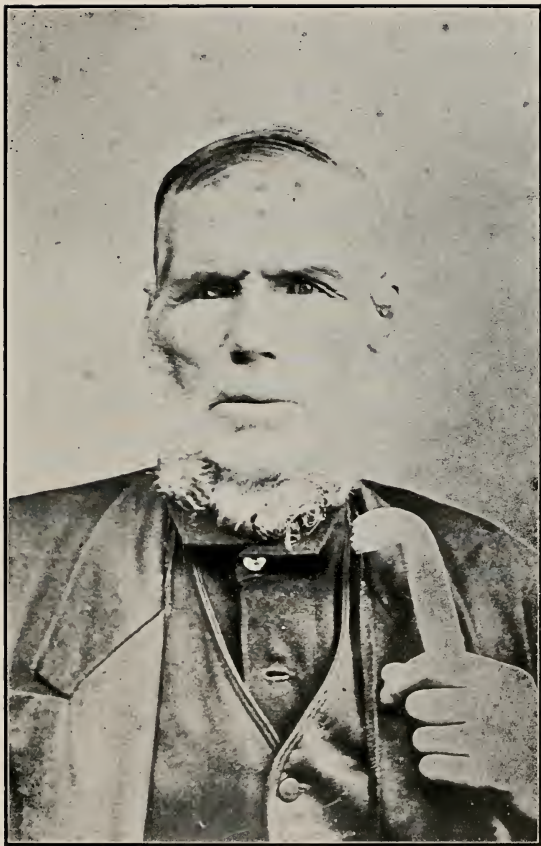
Mr. William Anneman, State Game Protector at Scranton, gives these remarks on deer and deer horns of Northeastern Pennsylvania:

"I have had twenty-five years' experience in this part of the State, and the heaviest deer that I have ever seen weighed was a five-point buck that was killed by my party on the Blooming Grove Creek in 1900. It weighed 255 pounds, *hog dressed*. There is quite a difference in counting points in different sections. We call the points from one side only in this section. This may not be right, but it is practiced in many places.

"As to whether the deer are deteriorating or not, I don't think they are, and I may add by saying that the deer killed this season compared favorably with any that I have ever seen in this section. I have seen about 100 of the Bucks that were killed in Pike County this season, and they were certainly up to the standard as to weight and also as to the antlers. The largest spread that I saw was $21\frac{1}{2}$ inches with 5 points. I should judge they ran from 125 to 225 pounds in weight.

"Of course we have the Virginia Deer (Little Deer), and whether they cross or not I do not know, but I presume that they do."

Stags without horns were occasionally met with in the Pennsylvania mountains. John Q. Dyce killed one in the Long Hollow back of McElhattan, Clinton County, in the fall of 1862. Meshach Browning in



JAMES DAVID (1805-1892)
A Noted Clinton County Deer and Elk Hunter



his "Forty-four Years A Hunter" mentions shooting a similar animal, which he described as "rare" in Maryland. Following are some tables of measurements of deer heads from all parts of Pennsylvania, including "Big" and "Little" deer, showing the marked difference in size of antlers, and also of deer killed in other States and in Canada. Among them are the dimensions of Rowland Ward's "record head" of a white-tailed deer, which has been given by the writer in a preceding paragraph as constituting an ideal normal head of our vanished "Big Deer."



BIG DEER (*Odocoileus americanus borealis* Miller.)

a—Author's collection.

b—Killed in the Pine Garden, near Millersburg, Berks Co.

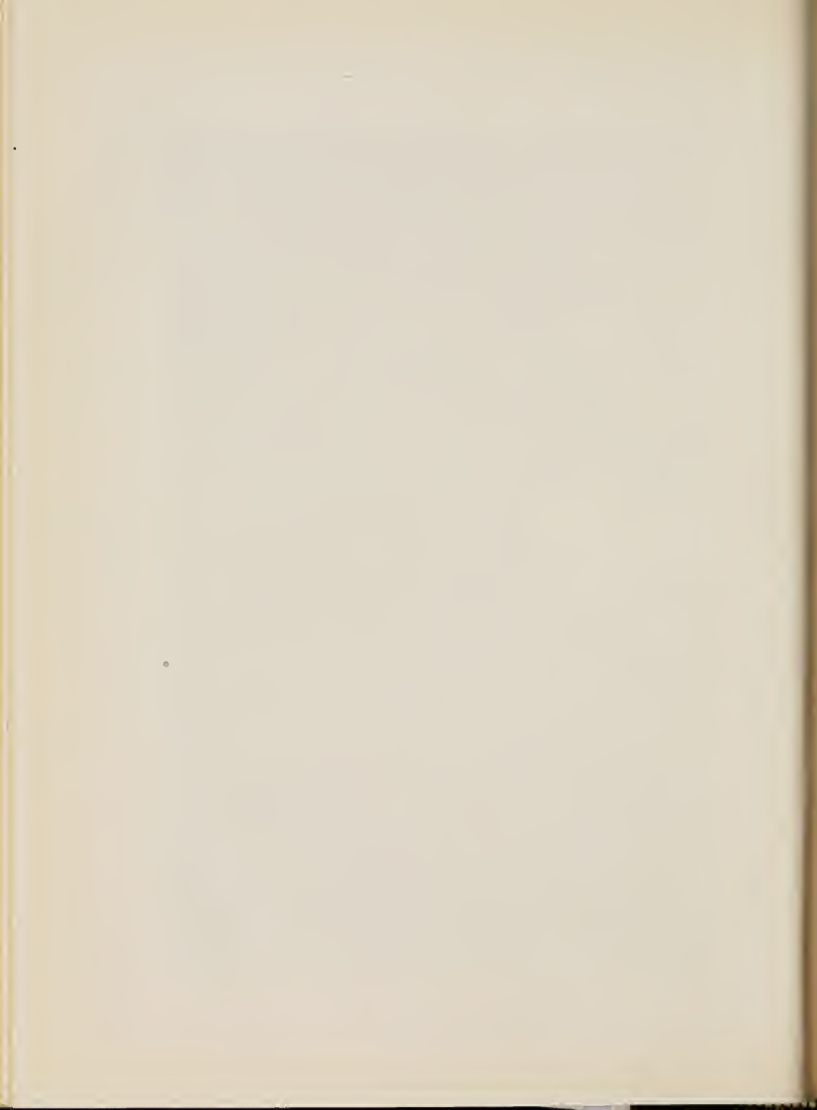
c—First given is always right horn.

d—Killed on the Pinnacle, near Eckville.

Locality	Fish Dam Run, 1885	a	Blue Mtn. ab. 1880.	Potter Co.	a	Seven Mtns.	a	Potter Co.	a	Seven Mtns.	a
Length	21		20	20		24		26		18	
Widest	13		12	14 $\frac{3}{4}$		9		13		9 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Tip to tip	14		10	15		8 $\frac{3}{4}$		9		6	
Circ.	4		4	4		3 $\frac{3}{4}$		4 $\frac{1}{4}$		3 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Points	c 4x5		4x5	4x5		7x6		7x5		5x4	
Locality	Centre Co.	a	Bald Eagle Mtns.	a	R. Ward's record H'd., Me.	Mo. Deer British Museum		Canadian		Texas.	
Length	13		22		29	27 $\frac{1}{4}$		26 $\frac{1}{4}$		25 $\frac{3}{8}$	
Widest	10 $\frac{3}{4}$		17		22	18 $\frac{1}{2}$		17 $\frac{1}{4}$		19	
Tip to tip	11		9		17			4 $\frac{3}{4}$		10 $\frac{3}{8}$	
Circ.	3		3 $\frac{3}{4}$		5 $\frac{1}{2}$			5 $\frac{1}{2}$		4 $\frac{5}{8}$	
Points	3x3		4x3		7x6	19x19		13x13		15x13	
Locality	S. Strohecker H'd. Seven Mtns. 1896		Cameron Co., Big Head		"Hastings" Head, Cen- tre Co.	"Old Goldy" 1913		"Old Dan" 1895		Blue Mtns. 1881.	d
Length	31		29		28	26		26		22	
Widest	21		22		21	14		15		19	
Tip to tip	16		17		17	10		15		19	
Circ.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$		5 $\frac{3}{4}$		5 $\frac{1}{2}$	5		5		4 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Points	15x11		28		23	6x6		3x4		5x7	
Locality	Herlacher's Biggest Head		M. Killam, Pike Co. Wt. 306 lbs.		Hude Cha- tham. One horn found	Rhoads' Pocono Head.		Dyce's Largest Head.		D. Beebe Pike Co., 1914	
Length	27		25 $\frac{1}{2}$		26	25 $\frac{1}{2}$		25		20	
Widest	22		22 $\frac{1}{2}$			21 $\frac{1}{2}$		14		22	
Tip to tip	15		14 $\frac{1}{2}$			9		9		11	
Circ.	5		5		5 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 $\frac{1}{2}$		4 $\frac{1}{2}$			
Points	6x7		6x6		8	6x6		7x7		7x7	



Like the Force that Overran Belgium, the Barnes Party of Deerslayers in Camp on White Deer Creek,
Union County



Locality	Lycoming County a	North Mtn.	Clinton County a	Chatham a Run. 1897.	Bald Eagle Mtn. a	Clearfield Co. a
Length	20¼	22	18	24	15½	21
Widest	11	17	15	10	12	13¾
Tip to tip	8¼	15	14	1¾	8	8¾
Circ.	4	4½	3¼	4	3¾	4
Points	5x4	4x7	5x5	4x3	4x3	4x4
Locality	British Columbia	Grinnell's Neb. Head.	Nebraska	New Bruns- wick.	Col. Roose- velt's N. D. Head	Adirondack Hd. Men'td by Ward
Length	25	24	23½	23¾	22½	22
Widest	19		14½	18½		14½
Tip to tip	6⅞	19½	4⅞	7½	15¾	6
Circ.	5	4⅝	4⅝	4¾	4	4¼
Points	6x5		7x10	4x4		7x4
Locality	"Old Mos- by."	White Deer Pike Co.	Hornaday's Cent. Mon- tana Head	Lycoming a County.	Clearfield Co. 1880	Otzin- achson Park, 1913
Length	25¾	24	23½	18	26	14
Widest	24	17	18	9	18	6¼
Tip to tip	19	15		9	20	6¾
Circ.	4½	5½		3¼	5	2¾
Points	9x9	6x6	13	4x4	6x6	4x3
Locality	D. Karstet- ter's Big- gest Head.	Black For- est, Wood- cock's "Teddy"	Bradford Co. N. Tyrrell's "Big Hoof"	W.H.H.Stro- hecker's Spruce Run Head 1871	W. H. H. Stro- hecker's Buff- alo Path Head 1882.	
Length	25½	25	25	24	18	
Widest	23½	21½	22½	24		
Tip to tip	13	10½	12			
Circ.		5		4½	4	
Points	7x8	7x7		7x7	5x5	

LITTLE DEER (*Odocoileus virginianus*.)

a—In author's collection.

Locality	Seven a Mtn. 1901	Seven a Mtn. 1902	Clinton a County.	Sugar Valley	Sugar Valley	Otzinachson Park	Mosser's Clearfield Preserve
Length	13	13	13	11	13	13	13
Widest	9	8¾	4	9	5½	5½	5
Tip to tip	8¼	6¾	3	8¾	4½	4½	8
Circ.	2¾	2¾	2¼	2¼	2¾	2¾	3
Points	4x3	3x5	3x3	3x5	4x4	4x4	3x4
Locality	South Mtn. 1912	Clinton Co. 1912	North Mtn. 1912	Northum- berland Co. 1912	W. H. Sch- wenk; Sugar Valley, 1914.	Sugar Valley 1914	Clinton County 1914
Length	13	12¼	11¼	12	14	12	12¾
Widest	9	6	5½	6	7	6	7
Tip to tip	4½	8	4½	6	6	5½	6¼
Circ.	2½	2¼	2¾	3	3	2¾	3
Points	3x3	4x3	3x3	4x3	5x4	3x3	3x4

Though the great heads like the Strohecker, Cameron County, "Hastings," "Old Mosby," "Old Goldy," and so on are a thing of the past, and are gone like the pure type of the Big Deer, there are still a sufficient number of good heads killed in Pennsylvania every season to make the measuring and collecting of Pennsylvania deer horns well worth while. Mature stags with 7-10 to 9-10 Big Deer blood are bound to have good antlers, provided conditions are maintained which will prevent a general deterioration. And these as stated previously are mainly protection of cover and conservation of the necessary predatory animals.



C. E. LOGUE

A Famous Clinton County Deer Hunter who Stalks His Game



Baillie-Grohman, author of "Sport in the Alps," writing in 1896 said: "Nine years ago the representative sportsmen of Hungary formed an association among themselves with the object of annually exhibiting in the capital of Hungary all the good deer heads obtained by them that season. Three of the members are elected to act as judges, and these pick out of the sixty or seventy choice heads sent in, the best ten. These are carefully measured, weighed, etc., and from the ten best three are then selected, their owners being rewarded with sporting prizes. The dimensions of the ten are then published." Why not institute an open competition to be held annually in Williamsport, the sporting capital of Pennsylvania, beginning next December (1915) with C. H. Eldon as judge, assisted by a jury composed of Hon. C. K. Sober, Stephen Olmstead, John D. Decker, Phil Wright, S. J. Pealer, B. F. Killam, C. F. Herlacher, C. W. Dickinson, David Robb, Seth Nelson, Jr., and other veteran Pennsylvania deer hunters, where all the best heads killed that season, exclusive of those shot in Parks or Preserves, can be shown and passed upon, for the edification of all who love the noble sport of the chase. In the Alps the horns of the steinbock (*Capra ibex*), the chamois, as well as the stags have been steadily decreasing in size since the destruction of the wolves, lynxes and

bears. Scottish stags have sadly deteriorated heads since the passing of the wolves from the forests of the North. An exhibition in Pennsylvania, if the heads of the thirty years ago were shown in comparison, would indicate the same state of affairs with us. Give us back our predatory creatures.

Let us turn from such a melancholy paragraph to the views of C. H. Eldon, than whom there is no better posted naturalist in the State concerning Pennsylvania deer:

“The shedding of the horns indicate the time when the season of selective attachment should close. Deer, moose, elk and caribou shed their horns. Deer and elk in their wild state shed their horns some time in January or February, but, in captivity a little later.

It requires about thirteen weeks for an elk or a deer to grow his horns and then one month more is required for the hardening. The horns grow inside a tough skin which in appearance resembles coarse plush of a brown color. When in this condition they are said to be “in the velvet.” The new growth of horn loosens the old horn and in time causes it to drop off.

The horns are built up by the blood. The veins pass through the burr of the antlers and as the antlers near their full growth the burr gradually tightens on



Pennsylvania Elk Killed in Potter County, about 1858, Now in Academy of Sciences, Philadelphia

(Photo: Courtesy of Dr. Witmer Stone)



the veins until the flow of blood is entirely shut off. Up to this time the velvet is very sensitive even to the slightest touch.

The animal now begins to realize once more his returning strength and he will thresh his horns through the brush in this way, tearing off the velvet and leaving them bare and keen.

The shed horns are eaten by wood mice, porcupines, squirrels and other gnawing animals; and the deer themselves aid in consuming their own horns, chewing them and eating them. There is doubtless some substance in the horns which aids digestion or satisfies a natural craving.

There is a dispute as to the location of the scent that is given out by the deer.

It is located in the foot. If the hoof is separated a little pocket is found containing a pasty substance, the odor of which resembles that of rank cheese.

This substance works out on the hoof and leaves its scent on the ground. If a deer is hard pressed by hounds he will take to water and running in it for some distance the odor will be so thoroughly washed out of the hoof that no scent will be left on the ground and consequently the dogs will be unable to follow."

B. F. Killam of Pike County says "the stag of northeastern Pennsylvania sheds his horns between

December 15 and January 1. By May 1, the horns have started to grow; by July 1, they have lengthened out so much that the first prong or 'snag' is visible. About August 25 the horns are full grown, and in a very few days the velvet covering loosens and by September 5, or about that time the velvet covering is all gone, and the stag then seeks an open place in some thicket of 'low-down' growth, where the direct rays of the sun shine in, and there he spends a while sunning his antlers."

C. E. Logue, gamekeeper at Otzinachson Park, in Clinton County, and a noted hunter, says that fawns have no scent, which protects them from wildeats, foxes, and other animals which otherwise would prey on them. He also states that deer make the best eating when their coats are red, in the month of June. "The weight of the average present day deer of Pennsylvania, which are mostly of mixed stock" continues Mr. Logue, "is 150 pounds for bucks, and 100 pounds for does." C. W. Dickinson states that one of the largest deer killed by his father, E. H. Dickinson, was brought to earth in McKean County in November, 1878, and weighed after the inner organs had been removed, 214 pounds. Previous to that, in the 'Thirties he had seen one considerably larger, but had not scales or steelyards to ascertain its exact weight.



Modern type of Pennsylvania Deer

(Killed at Norwich, Mc Kean County, 1913. Photo by W. T. Clarke, Betula, Pa.)



Henry L. Loomis, a prominent member of the Blooming Grove Park Association in Pike County says that the largest deer killed in the vicinity of his Clubhouse weighed, dressed, 232 pounds.

Mr. Eldon kindly sent the writer the measurements of some of the largest heads placed in his hands for mounting after the season of 1914 and previously. The length was taken from the root of horns instead of from coronet, the circumference from the root of the horns, instead of above the brow points, and many of the horns are of western deer liberated in Pennsylvania by Dr. Kalbfus, hence they cannot be compared with the horn measurements given on the preceding pages.

Killed near Ritchie, Clinton Co., Pennsylvania.

No. 32. (1914).

Spread	19	inches
Length of horn	24½	inches
Circumference at base of horn	4½	inches
Points	13	inches

Killed near the Old State Road between Twelve Mile Camp and Green Lick, Clinton County.

No. 47. (1914).

Spread	20¼	inches
Length	20	inches
Circumference at base of horn	4¼	inches
Points	4	inches

Killed in the Pine Creek Region, about seven miles Northwest of Cammal, Lycoming County.

No. 75. (1914).

Spread	17½ inches
Length	21¾ inches
Circumference at base of horn	4½ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed East of Zimmerman's near Pine Flat on White Deer Mountains, Union County.

No. 115. (1914).

Spread	15¾ inches
Length	22 inches
Circumference at base of horn	4¼ inches
Points	9 inches

Killed in Shaffer Hollow left hand branch of Quinn's Run, eight miles from Lock Haven, Clinton Co.

No. 258. (1914).

Spread	22 inches
Length of horn	24 inches
Circumference at base of horn	5¼ inches
Number of Points	10 inches

Killed in Lick Hollow, Centre Co.

No. 44. (1914).

Spread	24¾ inches
Length of horn	24¼ inches
Circumference at base of horn	4½ inches
Points	10 inches



"Old Teddy" Superb Stag, almost of the ancient Northern type Killed in the Black Forest 1914
(Roscoe Woodcock, Slayer.)



Killed on Bull Run, about ten miles from North Bend, Clinton Co.

No. 99. (1914).

Spread	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Length of horn	24 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Circumference at base of horn	4 $\frac{7}{8}$ inches
Number of points	10 inches

Killed near Lord's Valley P. O., Pike County.

No. 85. (1914).

Spread	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Length of horn	19 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Circumference at base of horn	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed at the head of Family Lick Drive, about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Carn's Camp location about nine miles from Clearfield, Clearfield County.

No. 136. (1914).

Spread	17 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Length	21 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Circumference at base of horn	5 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches
Points	5 inches

(Right 2, Left 3)

Killed in White Deer Mountains, Union County; two miles N. E. of Zimmerman's Camp.

No. 95. (1914).

Spread	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Length	23 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Circumference at base of horns	4 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches
Points	10 inches

Killed by The Red Ribbon Gun Club of Cleversburg, Cumberland Co., on South Mountain near Big Flats.

No. 206. (1914).

Spread	18 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Length of horn	23 inches
Circumference at base of horn	4 $\frac{3}{8}$ inches
Points	12 inches

No. 209. (1914).

Spread	17 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Length of horn	22 inches
Circumference at base of horn	4 inches
Points	11 inches

SEASON 1911.

Killed on Benjamin Run, Clinton Co., nine miles south of Renovo, Pa.

Spread at the tips	12 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Spread of beam, widest part	19 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Length	22 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches
Circumference at base of horns	5 inches
Points	10, 5 on each side

Deer Head, killed by R. J. Mann, on West Branch of Big Run, Centre Co., about 1890.

Prongs	23 (11 on right, and 12 on left horn)
Diameter	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches, 8 inches from head
Weight, dressed	246 pounds



(From a Photograph by Charles H. Eldon)



Killed on Laurel Run, near Medix Run, Elk County.

No. 204. (1914).

Spread	21½ inches
Length	22½ inches
Circumference	4⅛ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed November, 1914, in Lord's Valley, Pike County.

No. 220. (1914).

Spread	16 inches
Length	18¾ inches
Circumference	4 inches
Points	8 inches

Killed at the head of Benjamin Run, branch of Baker Run, South of Renovo, Clinton County.

No. 187. (1914).

Spread	16¾ inches
Length	18¼ inches
Circumference	3¾ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed in McHenry Township, Lycoming Co., Dec. 13, 1911.

No. 201.

Spread	19 inches
Length	23 inches
Circumference	4½ inches
Points	13 inches

Killed on Tussey Mountain, Fourth Range, Seven Mountains.

No. 277.

Spread	16½ inches
Length	23¼ inches
Circumference	4½ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed about five miles west of Elimsport, Pa., in the West End of White Deer Valley, called the Welter Mountains, and is a part of the White Deer Range.

No. 70. (1914).

Spread	18¾ inches
Length	20 inches
Circumference	4½ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed in Gilford Township, Franklin Co.

No. 186. (1914).

Spread	16 inches
Length	20½ inches
Circumference	3½ inches
Points	12 inches

Killed Nov. 18, 1914, about five miles from Water-ville, Lycoming County.

No. 169. (1914).

Spread	20½ inches
Length	22¼ inches
Circumference	4¾ inches
Points	12 inches



A FOREST TRAGEDY

(Photo. by C. H. Eldon)



Killed in Elk County, Bennezetete Township, one and a half miles from Caledonia, Nov. 13, 1914.

No. 272. (1914).

Spread	16½ inches
Length	23¾ inches
Circumference	4⅝ inches
Points	10 inches

Killed in Clinton County, about a mile south of Nippenose Valley (about eight miles south of Jersey Shore, Lycoming County).

No. 48. (1914).

Spread	17 inches
Length	20 inches
Circumference	4 inches
Points	9 inches

Killed on General Miles's Preserve.

No. 222. (1914).

Spread	18¼ inches
Length	21½ inches
Circumference	4⅛ inches
Points	11 inches

Killed in Centre Co., near headwaters of Forge Run and Bear Run, about 9 miles from Philipsburg, Penna.

No. 158. (1914).

Spread	17¼ inches
Length	22½ inches
Circumference	4⅝ inches
Points	8 inches

Killed in Clearfield County, on Karthaus State Forest Reserve.

No. 309. (1914).

Spread	19 $\frac{1}{4}$ inches
Length	20 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Circumference	4 inches
Points	8 inches

Killed November 19, 1914, South side Bear Meadows, Centre County.

No. 121. (1914).

Spread	16 inches
Length	20 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Circumference	4 $\frac{1}{8}$ inches
Points	9 inches

Killed on The Barrens in Huntingdon County, Pa.

No. 238. (1914).

Spread	17 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Length	21 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches
Circumference	4 inches
Points	10 inches

“For the sake of exact comparison it would be interesting to study a collection of Pennsylvania deer horns taken over a century ago. Unfortunately few horns of that period are in existence, as the pioneer hunters found life too serious a problem to undertake the task of collecting hunting trophies. Deer horns

as souvenirs or trophies only came into general vogue within the last fifty years, when it was too late to have preserved the gigantic antlers which our deer are said to have carried in 'Indian Days.' "



IX.

ELK HORNS.



UCKILY for posterity the mounted Potter County elk in the Academy of Sciences at Philadelphia preserves the dimensions of the species and its horns. Bullet-holed and moth-eaten though it is, the sight of it brings back memories of the wilderness. Killed in the Ole Bull Country about 1858, it is a memento of the magnificent beasts which once roamed our mountains and high tablelands. The proportions of this bull elk's horns are as follows, from measurements sent to the writer by Dr. Witmer Stone, Director of the Museum:

Length around curve, right horn, 3 ft. 6 in.; left horn, 3 ft. 4 in.

1st brow tine, right horn, 1 ft. 3 in.; left horn, 1 ft. 2½ in.

2d brow tine, right horn, 1 ft. 4 in.; left horn, 1 ft. 3½ in.

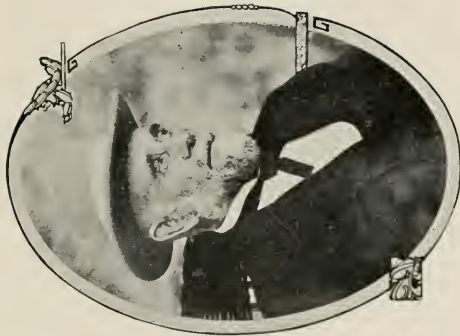
1st prong, 9 in.; left horn, 11 in.

2d prong, 1 ft. 1 in.; left horn, 9½ in.

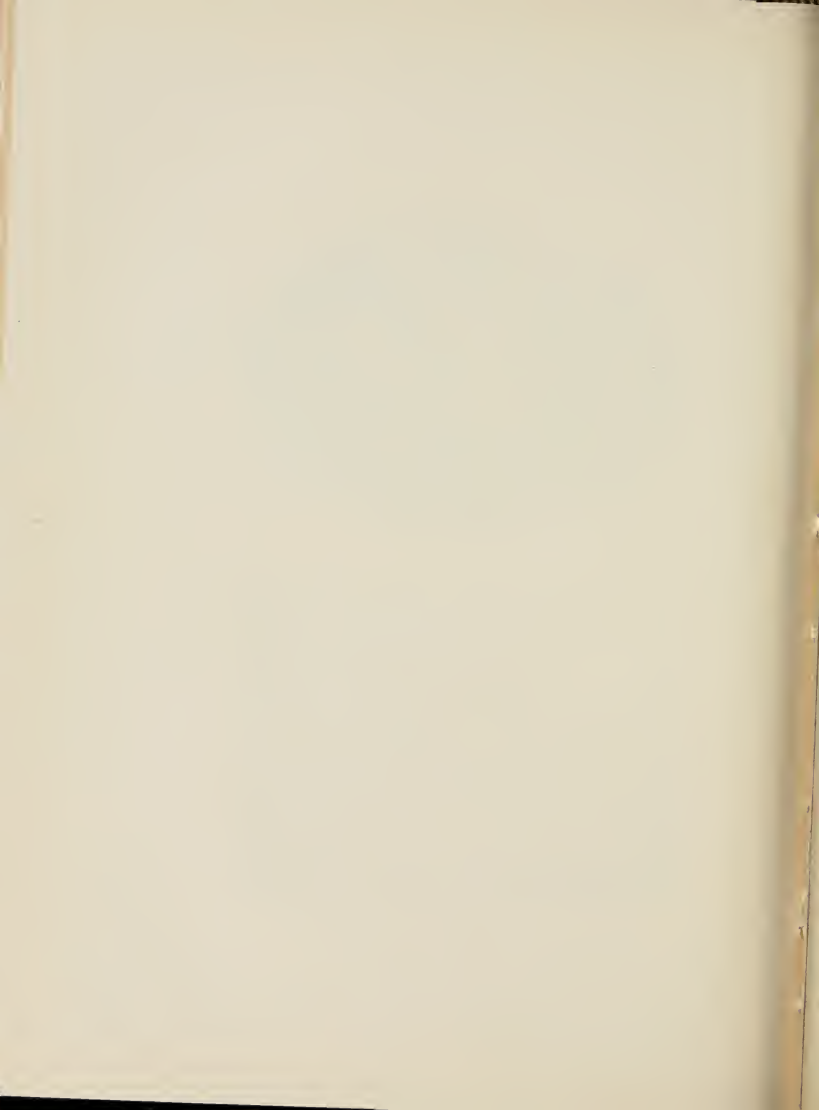
3d prong, 8 in.; left horn, 10½ in.



JIM JACOBS (1790-1880)
A Pure Blooded Seneca Indian Hunter,
who killed many Deer and Elks in the
wilderds of Northern Pennsylvania



DR. J. H. KALBFUS
The Efficient Secretary of Pennsylvania
Game Commission, who is working hard
to Preserve the noble sport of Deer
Hunting



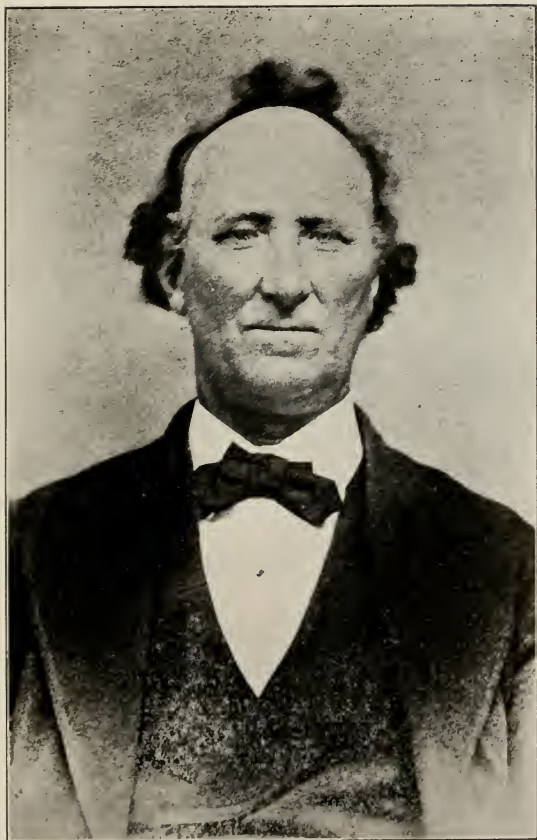
Apart from that specimen, few examples of the Pennsylvania gray Moose's antlers exist. In 1900, Flavius J. David, Clinton County surveyor, and son of the late James David, the noted elk hunter, while on a surveying trip in Eulalia Township, Potter County, found an elk horn lying in the woods. It had been scorched by forest fires, so that it was impossible to tell how long it had been there. L. K. Hogarth, of Smethport, McKean County, found a piece of elk horn in the Potter County forests a quarter of a century ago, and prizes it highly.

The writer of these pages has in his possession the skull of the last native elk killed in Pennsylvania in 1877, by John D. Decker, of Centre County. It is a two prong bull evidently a two-year old, and the horns are uneven. They are in length 13 inches, widest span, 10 inches, and circumference 2 inches above coronet $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

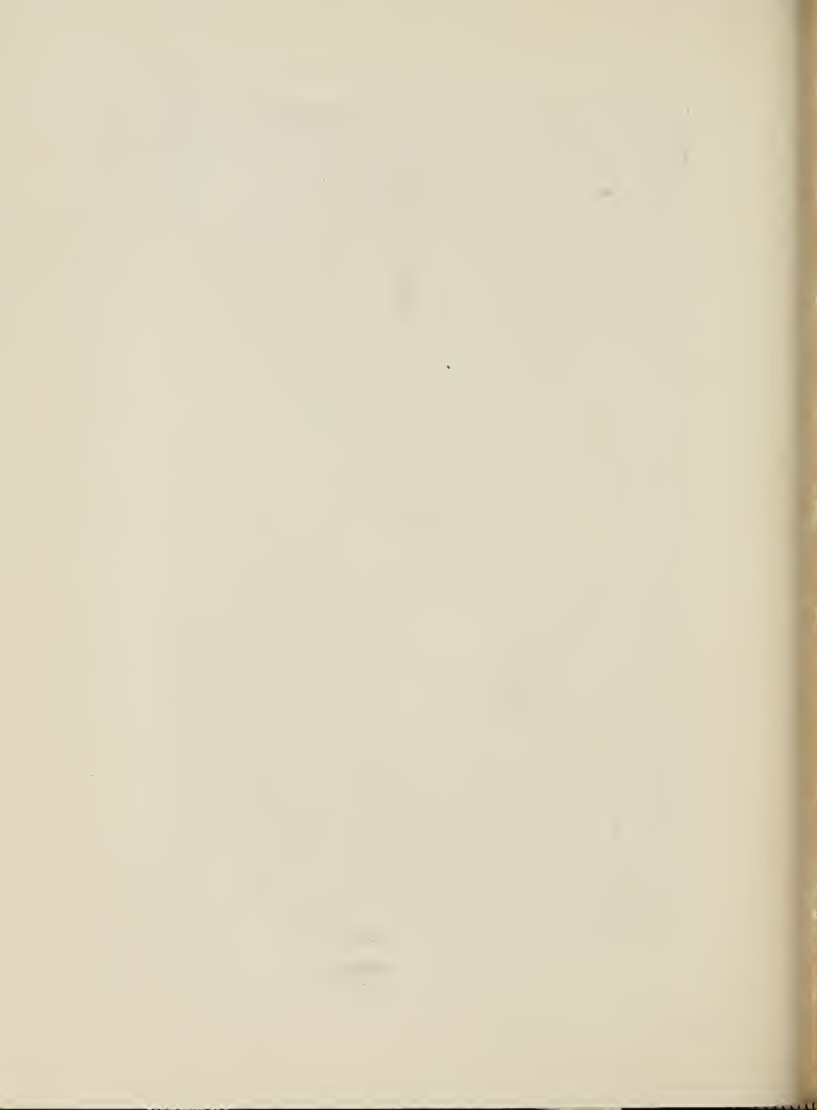
It is said that in old barns at Portville, New York, near the Pennsylvania State line, frequently are found bits of the huge elk antlers which once adorned the buildings of George Rae, who sixty years ago was the greatest hunter of the Gray Moose in Northern Pennsylvania. Many of the sets of antlers had a spread of nearly six feet. Rae died near Jackson, Wyoming, in 1910, in his ninety-fifth year. A splen-

did set of elk horns adorned the porch roof of the Jefferson Inn, at Brookville, Pa., which was erected in 1838, according to Dr. W. J. McKnight. John H. Chat-ham distinctly remembers when he was rafting on the West Branch before the Civil War, that a superb set of Pennsylvania elk horns hung above the entrance to the Deer Head Tavern on the river bank near Muncy. Charles H. Eldon has heard that a set of Pennsylvania elk horns is now hanging in an old barn somewhere in Northern Lycoming County. Philip Tomb, who used to catch elks alive, has been quoted by Mr. Rhoads as saying that the biggest elk horns were six feet in length, some had 22 points, but the most carried 18 points.

In his wonderful book "Thirty Years a Hunter," a volume worthy of reissuing, Tomb states that they generally had six points on each horn. Jacob Quiggle, who died in 1911, often saw Pennsylvania elk horns in his youth. A dead elk, brought to the mouth of Moshannon Creek, near Rocking Stone in 1850, by its slayer, Isaac Steele, had horns 66 inches in length, and a circumference of eight inches above the brow points. From tip to tip they measured 42 inches. There were six points on each horn. These measurements, if carefully taken, make it the record wapiti head of North America. Mr.



AARON HALL (1828-1892)
One of Centre County's most successful Deer Hunters



Quiggle was in Lock Haven when James David brought his Medix Run elk there in May, 1865. He measured the horns with the following results: Length, 40 inches; spread, 41 inches. As the horns were not fully matured (the elk only begins to grow new antlers in April) these figures are in no way conclusive. Smith Hunter, who killed an elk near Ridgway in 1869, reported that the horns had a spread of 46 inches, were 63 inches in length, and had 6 points on each horn. Col. Noah Parker, in an interview in the "New York Times" in 1896, which has been frequently re-printed, stated that Pennsylvania elk horns (exclusive of the skull) weighed 40 to 50 pounds, and had a spread of 60 inches. That would be a "record" spread, and, as Col. Parker was a reliable narrator, it must be accepted as fact.

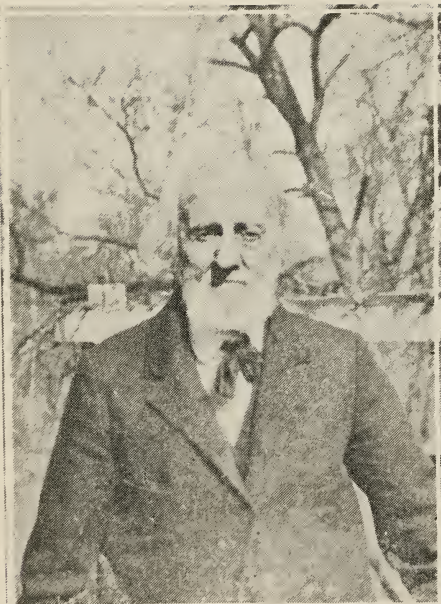


X.

MOOSE HORNS.



EW and far between are the traces of Pennsylvania Moose Horns. But they do exist, and probably in some remote farmhouse garret a set or two are still to be found. The last known pair hung above the front door of Heller's stone tavern, near Wind Gap, Northampton County, once the famous pathway of the moose from northern to southerly regions. It is related that Marks John Biddle, a celebrated lawyer of Reading, while stopping at this tavern, when on a horseback journey, noticed the horns, and asked about them of the landlord. Old Mr. Heller obliged his guest by taking them down and letting him measure them. They had a width of $78\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and weighed a trifle over 91 pounds. (It is just possible that these horns increased in size with the passage of years, as the famous head taken by Selous on the McMillan River in Canada in 1904 had a spread of $66\frac{1}{2}$ inches and weighed 75 pounds). They had been taken, Heller said, from a moose which had been driven by dogs at a trot through



DANIEL OTT

Born May 27, 1820

Snyder County's Greatest Deer Hunter. He killed his last deer when he was past eighty.

52

11

the Wind Gap, and at the easterly end it had staggered and fallen to the roadway from exhaustion. A farmer named Gross got an improvised rope and tackle and swung the huge brute, which he averred weighed at least a ton, into his barn. It lived only a week, despite all manner of attentions devoted to it. The dead moose was propped up astride of a trestle and exhibited in Mr. Gross's barn-floor as long as the cold weather lasted.

Every dog at large should be treated like the outlaw it is and shot. Marks John Biddle, let it be said, was one of the very few gentlemen hunters of his day in Pennsylvania. In his stable at Reading he had a room fitted up as a museum, with cases all around the walls filled with stuffed animals and birds that he had shot. On top of the cases were stuffed panthers, one of which had a white spot on its breast, and above hung the antlers of deer and elks. Mr. Biddle was particularly fond of elk hunting, and is the gentleman who hunted elks "on some barren mountains in northwestern Pennsylvania" in company with Mr. Peale, of Philadelphia, which has been so often quoted by natural history writers.

DeKay, in his "Natural History of New York," mentions a set of what were probably Adirondack moose horns in the Lyceum of Natural History in New

York City as being 48 inches in width! Beside the Pennsylvania horns at Heller's Tavern they would have appeared like pygmies.

Mr. Rhoads calls attention to an allusion in "Doughty's Cabinet of Natural History" of an Indian finding a set of moose horns imbedded in a salt lick near the New York State line, in northern Pennsylvania. From inquiry, the author of these pages has learned that the lick in question was situated in the centre of what is now the public square in Bradford, McKean County. The date of the finding of the horns was about 1819, and the finder, Jim Jacobs, a young full-blooded Seneca Indian residing in the neighborhood. For some years, in certain quarters, he was acclaimed as the slayer of the "last Pennsylvania elk." He was a mighty hunter, and a genial, lovable soul. Like most of his kind, he was killed by a train, while walking on the railroad track during a blinding snowstorm. He is said to rest in an unmarked grave. A simple marker should be erected on his last resting place. A sketch of his family life is given in the writer's "Black Forest Souvenirs," (Reading, 1914).

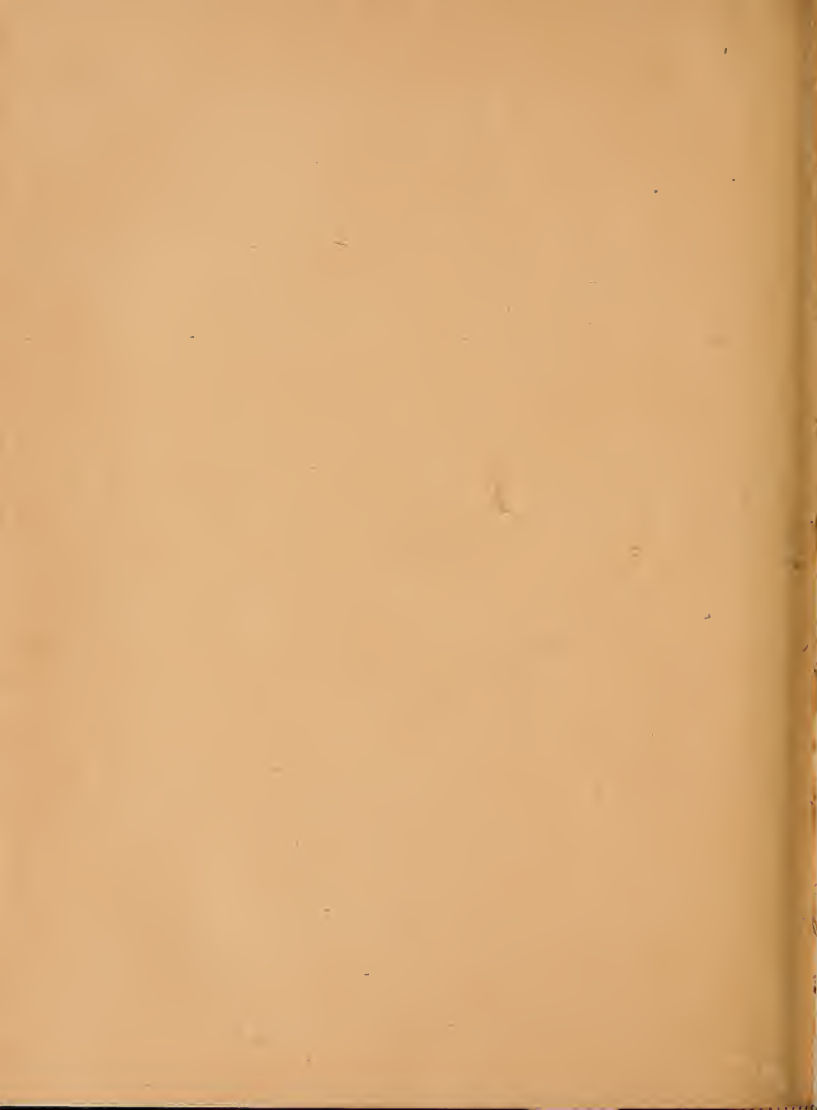
At Chinkalamoose, now Clearfield, for many years lived "Captain" Logan, an aged Indian and brother to Chief Logan, the Mingo orator and warrior. Cap-

tain Logan formerly had his cabin at the famous Logan Spring, named for him, in the center of the town of Tyrone. A jealous settler protested his title, so he removed further into the wilderness, to Chinkaclamoose. This word, according to S. G. Boyd's "Indian Local Names," means "It almost meets together," or "nearly joins." Some old settlers have insisted to the writer that it meant "meeting place of the *Moose*." In the county as previously stated are two Moose Creeks, and the Moshannon, or Moose Stream, flows through it. At any rate, soon after his arrival at Chinkaclamoose, a bull moose of enormous size strayed into Captain Logan's clearing one night. It refused to be driven away by the dogs, and as the old redman wanted to get to sleep he shot the monster, as he said, "to keep peace in the family." He had no scales, but estimated that the carcass and horns weighed over a thousand pounds. Until his dying day the huge palmated antlers hung over his cabin door. The old Indian said they brought good luck. It was probably the last moose killed in Central Pennsylvania, although the exact date of Logan's exploit is unknown. Previous to Captain Logan's coming to Chinkaclamoose, the spot had long been the home of a terrible Indian hermit (described by Ettwein in his travels in 1772) who lived on a rock, and murdered

the unwary travelers without quarter. He was finally killed and his bones burned. The ashes miraculously took on life, and became the *Ponkies*, or fierce biting little insects so dreaded by human and animal denizens of the Pennsylvania forests.







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